

THE TIMES

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 6 1984

20p

THE TIMES Tomorrow

The quiet Briton
Part II of The Times
tribute to Graham
Greene
Box office hit
Terence Stamp comes
of age at 46



Irish question
Suspicion of a police
cover-up over Armagh
shootings ricochet
through the province
Home birdie?
Nick Faldo at
Sunningdale may
play in Britain more
often now that
the money is right

Portfolio

Three winners shared yesterday's Times Portfolio prize - one of them a nine-year-old girl, the youngest winner so far. Miss Jane Ridley (aged nine), from Norwich, Ms Marilyn Stock, from Cumbria Martin, North Devon, and Miss Linda Boyd, of Leigh, Lancashire, Kent, each receive £666.66p. Report and photograph, page 3; Portfolio list, page 18; how to play, information service, back page

Transvaal bombs cut electricity

Unrest continued in the black townships of South Africa as a series of explosions deprived north-west Transvaal of electricity. A limpet mine was discovered in the Rand Supreme Court building in Johannesburg. Loosening continued in the townships, and rubber bullets and tear gas were used to disperse the rioters. Page 6

Tonyandy ill

Lord Tonyandy, aged 75, formerly Mr George Thomas, who was Speaker of the Commons, is being treated for throat cancer it was disclosed yesterday.

Invitation denied

Miss Nichola Latimer, with whose rape a man is charged, as well as with the murder of three members of her family, denied at his trial that she had invited them to their house. Page 3

Maxwell stake

Mr Robert Maxwell, owner of Mirror Group Newspapers, spent £9m to boost his stake in Fleet Holdings, publishers of the Express group, to 54.4 per cent. Kenneth Fleet, page 15

Talks deadlock

The Government has virtually abandoned all hope of an early resumption of Anglo-Argentine negotiations. Page 7

Yacht rescue

Eight women in a transatlantic yacht race were rescued off Land's End by a passing ship yesterday when their Canadian vessel sank after a fire.

Stratford plan

The Royal Shakespeare Company wants to build a 430-seat theatre within the shell of the Conference Hall at Stratford-on-Avon. Page 14

Leader, page 13
Letters: On Far East trade, from Mr W. M. Clift; gannet cull, from Mr P. J. Barlow; handwriting from Mr R. F. Purves
Leading articles: Canada; TUC; Gadafin

Features, pages 10, 12
An independent political culture for Hongkong, by David Howell. The German drama takes a knock; Peace gets a chance in Colombia; Tributes to Graham Greene

Books, page 11
James Fenton, Gay Firth, Nigel Andrew, and Bryan Appleyard review the novels of the week; Sir William Jackson on Ronald Lewin's last book; Basil Boothroyd on nostalgia

Obituaries, page 14
Mr Adam Malik, The Right Rev Francis Moncrieff
Classified, pages 23-27
La crème de la crème: appointments

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Miners resubmit conditions for talks resumption

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

● Miners' leaders agreed to attend peace talks provisionally arranged for Sunday but only if the coal board accepted union terms, including retention of loss-making pits.

● The TUC signalled its willingness to end a six-month boycott of tripartite discussions with the Government and employers' leaders within Nedsy.

Page 2

● Next week's threatened disruption on the railways seems certain to be called off after British Rail gave union leaders assurances about the industry's future.

● The transport union attempted to step up the national dock strike by calling on all its members in the docks to withdraw their labour.

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Freeze on benefits for private lodgers

By Nicholas Timmins
Social Services Correspondent

The Government has imposed a six-month freeze on the amounts of supplementary benefit it will pay to people in private and voluntary residential and nursing homes and for board and lodging because of huge increases in the amounts paid to the owners of such accommodation.

Tougher registration measures for residential homes are also to be introduced, with the maximum fine for operating an unregistered home rising from £500 to £1,000 and whose registration is cancelled.

Registration fees are to rise to £100 for homes and £75 for managers with an annual fee of £10 a place paid to local authorities who will be obliged to inspect homes at least once a year.

The moves were announced yesterday by Mr Rhodes Boyson, Minister for Social Security, in a statement tantamount to accepting that the Government made a serious mistake last November when it changed the rules for meeting accommodation charges from supplementary benefit.

Over the past year or so, the costs of board and lodging allowances had risen steeply, he said. In the year to last December, the costs for people in residential and nursing homes rose from £39m to £102m while the numbers provided for rose by only two-thirds.

The numbers in ordinary board and lodging rose by about half, but total spending went up from £166m to £270m. Mr Boyson said: "The Government is committed to controlling expenditure, and increases on this scale cannot be allowed to continue."

As an interim measure, the present limits are to be frozen until the spring, and the ceilings on the level of charges to be paid will in future be decided centrally by ministers rather than by local offices. Proposals on how to do that will be put forward in the autumn.

Although the figures released by the Department of Health and Social Security yesterday go up only to last December, social services departments believe that there has been a further steep increase in charges for accommodation.

Under changes introduced last November, local offices set ceilings on what they could pay home owners based on average in the local area. Figures released by the department yesterday show that the average payment for people in residential homes last year was £75.25, but evidence which the department gave the House of Commons Social Services Committee in June showed the average local limit was £116 for residential homes and £149 for nursing homes.

US double-deck bus order may be worth £350m

Leyland Bus announced yesterday that it is set to export double-deck buses to the United States in a deal that could be worth up to £350m.

The company is hoping to complete negotiations with the Gillig Corporation of Hayward, California, later this year to market jointly the Leyland Olympian in American cities.

The firm said it estimated up to 10 per cent of the 30,000 single-deck buses in America could be replaced by double-deck buses with operators making substantial savings.

The Olympians, which cost about £70,000 in Britain, are built at Leyland's Workington plant in Cumbria. The company is the world's largest manufacturer of double-deck buses.

The First Olympian bus is being shipped to the US and will make its first appearance at the International Public Transit Exhibition in Washington DC between October 1 and 3.

'Belgrano' aide resigns

The private secretary to the minister at the centre of the General Belgrano "cover-up" allegations is resigning from the Civil Service (Our Political Correspondent writes).

But Mr Philip Francis, secretary to Mr John Stanley, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, said last night: "There is nothing sinister in this; it's just the timing that's unfortunate."

Union to recruit flying pickets to save national dock strike

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

mass meeting to end the stoppage.

At Tilbury, the Port of London Authority, said yesterday that it expected to announce the result of its strike ballot tomorrow.

A statement issued by the union last night said: "Consideration was given to the London port employers' attempt to ballot our members in the port and introduce an element into the current dispute which would provide a distorted response that will not be acceptable to this union and its members as a true indication of the wishes of the majority currently involved in strike action in the Port of London."

"This will no doubt be used by other port employers as a method of destroying the traditional means whereby our members are able to express their decision in an open manner."

● The Port Employers' Association said last night that of the 14,057 dockers, 7,605 were on strike and 6,452 were working (The Press Association reports).

There were 11,057 registered dockers in the national dock labour scheme, of whom 7,562 were in dispute in docks covered by the scheme. The other 3,495 were continuing to work in scheme ports.

Of the 3,000 non-registered dock workers, not covered by the scheme, 2,957 were working at non-scheme docks, while 43 were on strike at one non-scheme port — Mostyn, north Wales.

A spokesman said that of the 62 national dock labour board listed commercial scheme ports, 35 were working normally. At the 31 non-scheme ports and wharves of a significant commercial capacity, only men at Mostyn were on strike.

Felixstowe letter, back page

Children at play found silver hoard

A hoard of 672 silver coins, some more than 400 years old, which were unearthed last Easter by holidaying children making a den on a mid Wales farm, were declared treasure trove by an inquest jury yesterday.

The inquest, at Builth Wells, Powys, was told that the coins would have represented a "small fortune" in their day. Mr George Boon, keeper of archaeology and numismatics at the National Museum of Wales, said the coins, shilling and sixpenny pieces minted between 1551 and 1662, had been clipped, reducing their value.

The police have for several years been using a basic version of the Alcometer as a roadside screening device, which shows red or green depending on the amount of alcohol in the breath. Lion Laboratories has now developed a version that gives a digital display of the number of milligrams of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood. The legal limit is 80 milligrams.

Dr Tom Jones, chairman and managing director of the company, said yesterday that the new Alcometer was available at just under £200, and had been bought by several hundred companies in Britain and by about twenty police forces around the world. The company hopes ultimately to make the machine available to a much wider public.

Lion has not publicized the Alcometer so far both because of its high price and because the police and the Home Office have tended not to be in favour of self-testing.

Inquiries about the Alcometer should be addressed to Lion Laboratories, Tyverton Estate, Barry, South Wales.

Durham.

Verdict on prostitute

Michael Pratt, aged 38, a male prostitute, who was also known as Benner and Rauch, collapsed from a drink and drugs overdose in his bedroom at Manor Court Hotel, Clarion Gardens, Paddington, west London, on July 19 and was dead on arrival at Westminster Hospital, an inquest was told yesterday.

A statement to the Westminister coroner from Dr C J Sergeant, from the Royal Free

Pocket-size breath test for drivers

Motorists can now test their blood-alcohol levels with unprecedented accuracy on a new machine the size of a pocket calculator. If the machine becomes widely available at a competitive price, as the makers hope, it could have a dramatic effect on the number of drink-driving offences.

The Alcometer is being manufactured by Lion Laboratories of South Wales, maker of the Intoximeter, the controversial electronic breath-testing machine in use in 600 police stations in Britain.

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*That's stupid", she replied.
Mr Stewart suggested that she
had met Mr Hutchinson cas
ally as he was buying a drink.*

*"He said to you: 'Is there a
shortage of men in Sheffield or
are they all just poofs?'" Mr
Stewart said.*

"No", Miss Laitner replied.

*Council suggested that the
conversation had continued with her telling Mr Hutchinson that it was her sister's wedding that weekend and there was to be a hen party where there would be plenty of women. Again, she denied the suggestion.*

Then, Mr Stewart, said, she asked him what he was doing in Sheffield, to which he replied that he was in lodgings there.

Survivor of knifed family denies inviting accused into her house

From Peter Davenport, Durham

sole survivor of a wedding day

orgy of violence which wiped

out three members of her

family, came face to face

yesterday with the man accused

of the killings and of raping her

at knifepoint.

She sat in the witness box in

Durham Crown Court just 15 ft

from the dock where Arthur

Hutchinson, aged 43, was

handcuffed between two prison

officers.

Mr Hutchinson, of Kelso

Grove, Hartlepool, Cleveland,

is accused of murdering a

Sheffield solicitor, Mr Basil

Laitner, his wife Avril, a doctor,

and their son Richard, aged 28,

at their home in Dore, Sheffield,

after a wedding reception for

their elder daughter, Suzanne,

on October 23 last year.

He is also charged with

unlawful sexual intercourse with Miss Nichola Laitner, aged 18, and with aggravated assault.

Mr James Stewart, QC, defending Mr Hutchinson yesterday why she had stayed at home and not joined her family at a dinner at her uncle's home after the wedding reception. They were killed after they returned home from dinner.

Miss Laitner denied a

suggestion from Mr Stewart that she had met Mr Hutchinson in a

Sheffield city centre public

house on the Friday before the

wedding and invited him back

to the house after the reception

and that was why she had not attended the dinner.

"That's stupid", she replied.

Mr Stewart suggested that she

had met Mr Hutchinson cas

ally as he was buying a drink.

"He said to you: 'Is there a

shortage of men in Sheffield or

are they all just poofs?'" Mr

Stewart said.

"No", Miss Laitner replied.

Mr Stewart: "You stripped off." Miss Laitner: "No."

Mr Stewart: "You petted."

Miss Laitner: "No."

Mr Stewart: "You条了."

Miss Laitner: "No."

Earlier yesterday she told the

court that before her family

returned from dinner, and after

making three or four telephone

calls to friends, she undressed

and went to bed.

The next thing I was aware of

was my mother screaming."

Then she heard scuffling

noises in her darkened room

which she thought might have

been her father coming to say

goodnight after arriving home.

But the person said nothing and

left after 30 seconds.

The next thing she heard, she

told the court, was the "shouting,

shrieking" voices of two men,

one her father, followed by

a massive scream and choking". The case continues.

Microphone alarm is launched

By Michael Sally

A "softly softly" burglar alarm that alerts the police without warning the burglar is expected to prove an important defence against the rising incidence of burglaries.

Instead of an alarm bell that often alerts the burglar and no one else, the device uses concealed microphones that pick up the slightest noise throughout a protected building. Relayed to 24-hour control rooms, it enables the police to be on their way within minutes without letting the burglar know that he has been detected.

The system, used successfully in the United States, goes into operation in Manchester today, run by a partnership of the US Sonitrol Corporation, and Pickfords Removals.

A 24-hour control room in Trafford Park will cover contracted factories, homes, warehouses, schools, churches, and other users within a 35-mile radius. Similar centres will open in London, Glasgow, Birmingham, Liverpool, and Newcastle upon Tyne over the next few months.

In the United States the system reduced false alarms from more than 95 per cent to 20 to 30 per cent, and reduced the number of wasted journeys by police officers and property owners. Mr Henry Fleming, chairman of Sonitrol, said:

Rolls-Royce is to pay damages

Rolls-Royce is to pay a substantial sum for damage caused to an £80,000 car while it was at the company's workshops for a service.

Mr Robert Jones, formerly a director of a service station in Stanmore, Middlesex, was involved in a two-year dispute with the company after he sent his blue Camargue for a 6,000-mile service. The Camargue costs £83,122 at today's prices.

Yesterday both sides arrived at the High Court for an assessment of damages. But an out-of-court settlement was reached for an undisclosed sum,

Men 'attacked van with axe handles'

An ice cream van was attacked by a group of masked men wielding pickaxe handles and a sledge hammer, a multiple murder trial at Glasgow High Court was told yesterday.

William Hamilton, aged 17, of Lochgelly Road, Glasgow, who said he was one of the attackers, was giving evidence in the trial of four men accused of murdering six members of the same family by setting fire to their home in Bankend Street, Rutherglen.

Those who died were Mr Andrew Doyle, an ice cream van driver, aged 18; Mr James Doyle, his father, aged 53; Mrs Kathleen Hallaron, Mr Doyle's daughter, aged 25; Mark Doyle, her son, aged 18; Anthony Doyle, aged 14; and James Doyle junior, aged 12.

Thomas Campbell, Thomas Gray, Joseph Steele, and Gary Moore, all from Glasgow, are charged with murder. Mr Campbell, Mr Gray, Thomas Lafferty, and John Campbell are charged with attempted murder. A seventh man, George Reid, is charged with assault. The men deny all the charges.

Conference post for discredited forensic scientist

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

Dr Alan Cliff, the discredited Home Office forensic scientist, is one of the organisers of the world's most important forensic science conference.

He was invited to help by Professor Stuart Kind, president of the International Association of Forensic Sciences, who is one of the profession to have spoken out in defence of Dr Cliff.

Dr Cliff is treasurer and business manager of the triennial meeting of the association in Oxford, for a week from September 18th.

Dr Cliff was suspended by the Home Office in 1977, accused of incompetence. Four years later, he was compulsorily retired after a man convicted of murder on his evidence had a conviction quashed.

Staff puzzled at Carrier's closure news

By Rupert Morris

There was scarcely a ripple on the aspic-coated surface of Carrier's Restaurant in Islington, London, yesterday, despite the news that the place is to close at the end of the month.

The casual luncher - of whom there are not many - at £2.50 a head, exclusive of wine - would have been able to enjoy impeccably served dishes such as marinated scallops, salmon en croute, of langoustine, and breast of quail, blithely and aware that a gastronomic chapter was coming to a close.

Beneath the surface, however, there was sadness, bewilder-

ment that Carrier's for so long the London standard-bearer of Mr Robert Carrier's food and publishing empire, should have received its death warrant.

Mr Carrier, whose face and voice are familiar to millions through his recipes and television appearances, was in Marfares yesterday, having written to every member of his staff last week informing them of the closure, and giving them between one and two months' notice.

Mr Angelo Tardoli, wine waiter since Carrier's was



Youngest Times Portfolio winner: Jane Ridley, aged nine, was thrilled yesterday when she heard she was a winner in The Times Portfolio competition. She will share the £2,000 prize with two other winners.

Jane, the youngest winner, her brother Joseph, aged 13, and their mother, Ann,

Lecturer is to study effects of jogging

By David Cross

A research lecturer at Aberdeen University has secured a £357,000 grant for a three-year study into how jogging and running marathons affect people's fitness and health.

Dr Ronald Maughan, who works at the Institute of Environmental and Offshore Medicine, said that, despite the enormous popular interest in such pursuits, relatively little attention had been devoted to the implications of participation in regular physical exercise on the short and long-term health of formerly sedentary people.

"Only if it can be clearly established that the advantages of regular physical exercise outweigh the possible risks and disadvantages can the promotion of exercise be justified to those who find it inherently distasteful," he said. "This then leads to the question of how much exercise, how often, and at what intensity."

Among the various points which Dr Maughan will investigate are:

- The physiological effects and medical problems associated with training and participation in marathon events.
- The psychological and sociological factors which motivate formerly sedentary people to embark on a strenuous endurance training programme.

- The reasons for muscle soreness and ways of minimizing or preventing it.

The grant is being funded by the Health Promotion Research Trust.

Jackanory to feature Prince as storyteller

By Kenneth Gossling

"Not all that long ago, when children were even smaller and people had especially hairy knees, there lived an old man of Lochmagar..."

With these words, Prince of Wales opened his now celebrated children's story, "The Old Man of Lochmagar", written when he was 21. That introduction will mark the Prince's debut in the television series Jackanory as part of the BBC's autumn schedules.

He is one of four guest readers - all of them people who have written their own children's stories - the others are Sir Harry Secombe, the ex-Goon so much admired by the Prince, Pam Ayres, and Michael Palin.

Each reads in the story's own setting, and in the Prince's case, that means Balmoral.

The 15-minute stories have already been recorded and according to Jackanory producer, Angela Beeching, the Prince's came off very well and was completed in one take. On the question of a fee the BBC maintained a discreet silence.

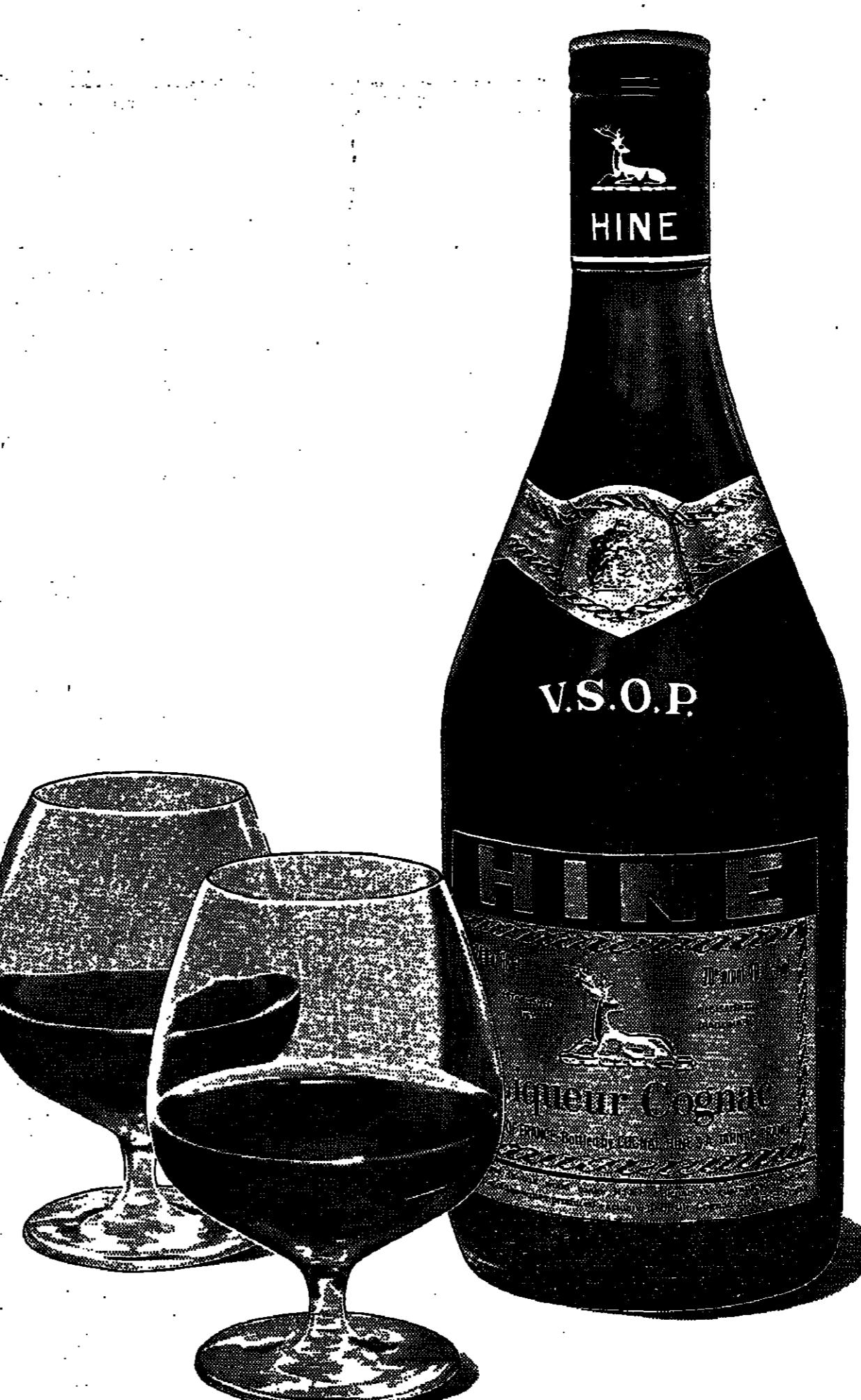
Nor would it confirm that the Prince of Wales makes his appearance on September 26, even though the date figured in a BBC press release.

Although the Prince lends a royal touch to the autumn children's schedule the real "blockbuster" which cost £1m, is a six-part adaptation of John Masefield's classic, *Box of Delights*, starring Robert Stephens, Patrick Troughton, and James Groot, and introducing Devin Stanfield, aged 13, of Eastbourne, as the hero.

Former favourites return: Grange Hill, Rentaghost, John Craven's News Round, and Crackerjack. Blue Peter will become the first children's programme to appear with regular subtitles for deaf viewers, helped by more than £20,000 from the National Deaf Children's Society.

Announcing several new programmes, including a four-night-a-week quiz called Beat the Teachers, Mr Edward Barnes, head of children's programmes, denied claims that the BBC had lost ground to ITV.

HINE Cognac. Savour the moment.



TUC/BRIGHTON

● Education campaign

Engineers' defeat keeps open possibility of unions' return to Neddy

Reports by John Winder, Derek Barnett, and Stephen Goodwin

A majority of 1,601,000 on card vote at the 116th annual TUC Congress at the Brighton Conference Centre yesterday kept open the way for the general council to return to the National Economic Development Council.

A motion by the Technical, Administrative and Supervisory section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering workers instructing the council not to participate was rejected by 5,650,000 to 4,049,000.

Mr David Bassett, general secretary of the Tass, moved the motion, which was taken with two composite motions on related economic subjects. He said: "The Government's legislative and repressive attack on the trade union movement and its unending commitment to economic policies which create mass unemployment must present a strategy which could command the support of the vast majority of the electorate. It also demanded a comprehensive policy statement setting out specific long-term objectives and priorities to be placed before the 1985 congress."

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That could not be blamed on wages because British workers were lower than international standards.

Mr Alan Tuffin, General Secretary of the Union of Communication Workers, seconded said that they had to consider a range of

that our gold-plated six, which is what we call them amongst ourselves, have had the slightest effect on unemployment since 1979."

The TUC's call had come in dispute where the Government smashed trade unionism at GCHQ, Cheltenham. And the Government had not changed its mind. It had continued attacking workers.

Why could the general council not be as consistent as the Government? There was no need to attend Neddy. Workers could put a clear point of view and the general council could speak to ministers on issues of workers' rights and the ability to negotiate, and without the chance of pursuing so-called common objectives.

The excuse for returning to Neddy was that the CBI shared some of the TUC's criticisms but this was a shabby pretext for re-entering this rich man's monetarist club.

There was no moral, political or economic justification for going into Neddy again.

Mr Larry Smith, Transport and General Workers' Union, seconding the motion, said: "I am rapidly coming to the conclusion that the only way to change Monetarism's mind is by brain transplant, on BUPA of course. But I only hope she does not look around her Cabinet for a donor."

It was unrealistic not to believe that to go back to Neddy with their tails between their legs when the Government had made no concessions would be interpreted as an act of surrender.

The motion was welcomed as "positive initiatives". The Schools Council industrial project, the MSC's technical vocational education initiative and the new certificate of pre-vocational education.

Nevertheless, it said, "real progress depends on far better coordination between all the agencies involved, including the schools, local educational authorities, MSC, unions and employers".

Mr Leif Mills, General Secretary of the Banking, Insurance and Finance Union, introducing the motion, said that there needed to be more coordination in curriculum development, reform of school examinations, and teacher training was carried.

The motion welcomed the Schools Council industrial project, the MSC's technical vocational education initiative and the new certificate of pre-vocational education.

The motion criticized the Government for reducing the powers of local education authorities, for its penalties against local government spending on education, its centralization of control of education, its support for privatization of education services and its attacks on the principle of comprehensive education.

The Government's alleged failure to reform effectively the economy and its attack on dedicated teachers during the current pay negotiations which, for the time being only, had denied teachers a full pay rise.

The motion called on the general political party to renew and extend the campaign for a comprehensive, properly staffed and resourced public education service. It asked the government to give the funds to expand education opportunities to allow wider access to universities and higher education and to increase staffing.

Mr Peter Dawson, general secretary of the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, said that the party had set its face against privilege and against money being the sole means of getting a good education.

"But that 1944 covenant is in great danger," he said. "As the state sector becomes more and more impoverished so the private sector, with all the advantages of small classes and individual education, gains in strength, especially through the direct subsidy of the assisted place scheme."

If that division put the social structures back 50 years, delegates should consider how the insidious pressure for re-introduction of selection in education further undermined the ideal of equal opportunity for their children. Government policies did not seem to show any concern for the development of the skills and talents of the people which were so necessary for the nation's economic future.

He hoped that the TUC national education centre would have qualifications and award diplomas with travelling scholarships. He wanted TUC leaders to go to teach. It was proposed to create a new cadre of informed young trade union leaders.

Mr Peter Griffin, of the National Union of Teachers, moving his union's motion, spoke of the consequences of today would turn into the sacrifice of tomorrow. It would

be a human sacrifice of children, youth, the entire community, on the part of public spending.

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Mr Evans: "Economy getting worse"

issues involved in the work ethic. Those who had faced job losses knew that even when there was growth, employers used methods designed to avoid more employment - new technology, bonus and productivity schemes and excessive overtime.

Their view of the traditional working week was becoming increasingly old fashioned as many sought to change hours to meet social circumstances.

Overtime was a way of propping

up inadequate basic wages but it was a scandal that with up to four million looking for work, three million adult male workers were doing overtime.

Mr Tom Sawyer, National Union of Public Employees, moving a second composite motion condemning the Government's public spending plans, and calling for them to be increased, said that cuts hit poor families hard; not just the miners were starving, but seven million people living on inadequate incomes.

It was offensive and repugnant to men and women who had paid taxes to build up profitable public industry to find that they were asked to buy shares in British Telecom which they owned.

Mr Kevin Fitzgerald, National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, seconding the motion, said that they needed more spending on wages to create demand for manufactured goods, on health, welfare and education to build their capacity as a working population in response to increased economic activity and on nationalized industries as a basis for planned growth.

Mr Gill, moving the motion, said only the general council had severe withdrawal symptoms.

There is not a jot of evidence

Leaflet plea on Labour 'racism'

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Union delegates have been urged to fight the institutional racism of the Labour movement.

A leaflet distributed by the National Black Sections Steering Committee at Brighton appeals to the unions to help blacks and Asians set up a pressure point within the Labour Party black sections.

"This is particularly so in the inner cities where Labour so heavily relies on the black vote but does so little to deserve it."

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Chile police accused of brutality after death of French priest

From Our Correspondent
Santiago

Opponents of the military regime in Chile yesterday tried further to paralyse the country after a French priest and two other people, including a 14-year-old boy, died during the first of two days of protest.

Father André Jardin, aged 44, was found dead with two bullets in the neck in his Santiago shanty town house. He was reading the Bible when he was shot. Another French priest who shared his house with him was quoted as saying that the bullets came from police who ran down the street firing bursts from machine guns.

"It is a message from God to stop the violence and to listen to the people who are only asking for work and justice. It is a message from God so there is no more hate," Archbishop Francisco Fresno said, adding that the Roman Catholic Church was in mourning.

The two days of protest called by the opposition parties - Democratic Alliance, Socialist Block and Popular Democratic Movement - drew a disappointing response, but were punctuated by excessive police violence.

On Tuesday morning, about 300 protesters gathered in the Plaza de Armas in the centre of Santiago and tried to sing the Chilean national anthem. Police, using truncheons, water cannon and dogs, broke up the demonstration and arrested more than 100 people, including the union leader, Señor Rodolfo Seguel, who was wounded. The president of the International Christian Democracy, Señor Andrés Zaldívar, was also arrested but freed soon after.

He told *The Times*: "Chile is a country occupied by force. You can't express your ideas without being repressed."

He was witness to the Government's violence which, instead of protecting the population, attacked it.

The protest day is an attempt by the people of Chile



Man in the middle: Señor Zaldívar, one of the main opposition leaders, is arrested in Santiago after being sprayed by water cannon.

Paris protests to Pinochet over killing

France has ordered its ambassador to Chile to protest at the killing of the French priest (Reuter reports from Paris).

The Government spokesman M Roland Dumas, said: "The French Government condemns the brutal repression of demonstrations that express the Chilean people's desire to see democracy restored. France paid homage to Father Jarlan.

The Chilean Government has ordered an inquiry

to express their desire to return to democracy, and once again the Government has acted with repression, brutally attacking

the public. The three deaths, 100 wounded and 250 arrested show the Government is only staying in by force."

University students built barricades on their campuses and threw stones at police, and in working-class areas residents also erected barricades, burnt tyres and set four buses on fire.

The Government prevented the two main radio stations from broadcasting normal news programmes, allowing only the official line to be put.

A 35-year-old rehabilitated drug addict was fatally wounded in the back while manning a barricade in the same shanty area where the priest died. In a similar incident at another barricade, a 14-year-old boy was shot dead.

The biggest impact on the second day of the protest was a work stoppage by lorry drivers in Santiago. They were joined by some drivers in other cities.

More than 100 demonstrators have died since May, 1983, in protests against President Pinochet's rule. The political effects of the latest unrest are unclear. Last year the President responded to the first big demonstrations by letting thousands of exiles come home, easing press censorship and permitting opposition parties to operate or the first time in a decade.

He has recently, however, returned to repressive measures and sounded more confident about his plans to stay in power until 1989.

A Soviet-style tourist problem

'Wild ones' plague Yalta

From Richard Owen
Yalta

Anton Chekhov built himself a villa here. So did Nicholas II, and Soviet leaders come here to rest from the cares of the Kremlin.

It is not hard to see why Yalta, set on a superb stretch of Black Sea coast, offers sunbathing and society comparable with the Italian or French Riviera. The Russians rather earnestly refer to Yalta's climatic properties and restorative powers, but we would simply say it is a first class resort.

There is no topless sunbathing, and the usual fare of cabbage pies and chicken Kiev reminds you that you are still in the Soviet Union. But there are comparatively few propaganda slogans, and the atmosphere is relaxed.

"The Soviet Union is the bulwark of peace," seems a little absurd on a giant placard at the entrance to the Hotel Yalta, as if it had been placed by mistake on a corniche near Nice. The same is true of the portrait of Lenin, next to the Beach Restaurant where Yalta's good-time girls gather in the warm, fragrant evening in search of hard currency tourists and entry to the magic world of foreign tourism.

The Hotel Yalta is the town's showpiece. Completed five years ago with Yugoslav help, it has 1,500 unusually clean and well-appointed rooms, a higher standard of service than normally found in Russia and a lift straight down to the beach. On the Adriatic this might not seem remarkable but on the Black Sea it is a welcome surprise.



The private beach is a babbles of German, English, Finnish, and some Russian, since quite a few privileged Soviet citizens seem able to take their families to the Hotel Yalta for their annual holiday.

The vast majority of Russians, though, go to Sanatoria and "houses of rest" run by their trade union or factory. Here conditions are more spartan, but on the other hand the vouchers (*puyovkas*) are very cheap and much in demand. In the Soviet Union you do not spend winter evenings flicking through colourful travel brochures (only tiny numbers ever travel abroad, in supervised groups). Instead you put your name down for a *puyovka* and pull as many strings as you can to ensure you get a place in a sanatorium or holiday centre at some desirable resort such as Yalta, Sochi or Sukhumi.

The voucher system is designed to ensure that workers and peasants have access to the "wild ones" out.

Muzorewa stays away from party and press

Mrs Gandhi looks victor in Rama Rao battle

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Harare-Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the former Prime Minister of Zimbabwe who was released on Tuesday after 10 months in detention, stayed well out of politics yesterday (Jan Raith writes). A scheduled press conference did not take place.

The bishop spent the day with fellow members of the American-based United Methodist Church, being briefed on events during his absence. He did not call at the headquarters of his party, the UANC.

Socialist pledge

Nairobi - Representatives of West European parties at the Socialist International conference at Arusha, in northern Tanzania agreed yesterday to mobilize more international economic and political pressure against South Africa for Namibian independence and an end to apartheid (Charles Harrop writes).

Airship patrol

The British-built *Skyship 200* will serve as an airship observation post today as part of Tokyo's extraordinary security precautions for the visit of President Chun of South Korea (David Warr writes).

150

Theatre of hooligans taps hidden talents

From Our Own Correspondent
Moscow

An amateur theatre using the hidden talents of drunks, hooligans and layabouts, is proving a success with Moscow audiences after initial disasters in which both actors and theatregoers became involved in drunken brawls.

The theatre, in a cramped basement flat in the run-down working-class south-west of Moscow, is run by Valery Belakovitch, a 34-year-old failed actor.

Seeing that many young people in the district wasted their evenings in bars and wine shops, Mr Belakovitch decided to make life in the dismal housing blocks more attractive. His first production, a play based on an old musical comedy called *Trouble in a Tender Heart*, collapsed when customers from the wine shop upstairs pored into the basement to watch their mates tread the boards. Amid shouting and jeering an array broke out and Mr Belakovitch was punched on the nose.

The leading actor in Bulgaria's *Moliere*, a former ringleader of the local street gangs, has even been offered the title role in a joint Soviet-Spanish production of *Don Quixote*. The theatre is besieged by requests for tickets from official organizations.

The theatre's rise comes as the Soviet press is deplored the state of modern theatre and depicting a crisis in Socialist-Realist drama.

Sovetskaya Kultura said most plays published in the last year were second-rate, and the "industrial drama", with its stock "positive hero" fulfilling norms laid down by the party, is sinking under the weight of ideological clichés.

Nuclear issue dominates campaign

Arms pact is Mondale aim

From Nicholas Ashford, Salt Lake City

Mr Walter Mondale, the Democratic presidential candidate, yesterday announced that, if elected in November, he would - on his first day as President - call on the Soviet Union to hold arms talks in Geneva within six months.

At these talks he would urge Moscow to agree to a temporary ban on the testing of all nuclear weapons and in the testing and deployment of all space weapons.

He would then use this pause in order to challenge the Soviet leaders to return to the bargaining table and negotiate a lasting, effective agreement to put a

survivable nuclear systems, such as the Trident 2 submarine-launched missile, the Mid-range mobile ICBM, and the Stealth strategic bomber.

In an attempt to counter Republican allegations that he was "soft" on defence, Mr Mondale emphasized that he was committed to building a "strong defence aimed at deterring aggression and reducing the risk of nuclear war".

He used strong terms to castigate the Soviet Union, terms which could have almost been taken from President Reagan's lexicon of anti-Soviet rhetoric.

The Soviet leaders were "cynical, ruthless and dangerous. They repress their citizens ... in the Middle East they sabotage peace. From Asia to Africa to Latin America, they suppress human rights and export instability."

Although most of his speech dealt with defence issues, Mr Mondale also used his appearance before a largely conservative audience to show that he and his party were as patriotic and as true-blooded Americans as his opponents.

On Tuesday, President Reagan, appearing before the same gathering, had posed as the champion of the "new patriotism".

The legionnaires clearly preferred the optimistic, uncomplicated speech which President Reagan had delivered the previous day. But they listened to Mr Mondale with respectful attention and even applauded on occasions.

Odinga's comeback attempt scuppered

Nairobi (AFP). - The Kenyan authorities have squashed an apparent attempt at a public comeback by the former Vice-President, Mr Odinga.

Mr Odinga, aged 73, launched the Ramogi Development Trust last weekend, describing it as a country-wide body aimed at "improving the quality of life

of Kenyans," with himself as its promoter.

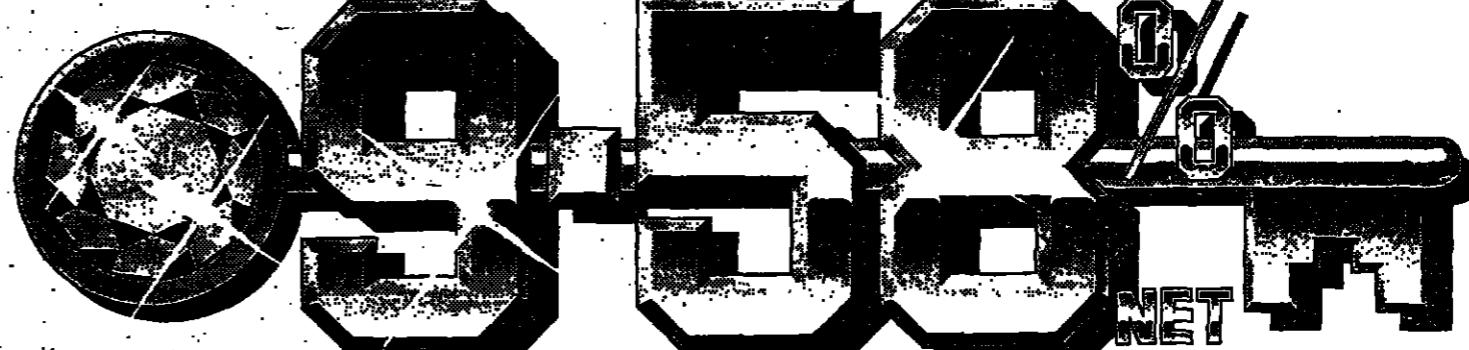
He said it would be a public, non-profit making organization run on commercial lines, to fund the establishment of educational bodies and colleges.

But the announcement by Mr Odinga, who was released from a period of house arrest earlier

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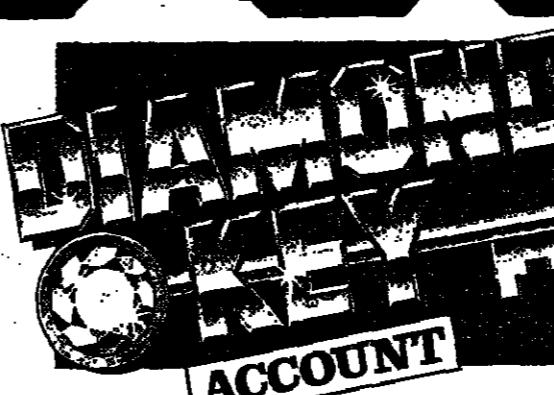
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Bomb found in Supreme Court**Violence flares again as explosions interrupt Transvaal power supply**

From Michael Hornby, Johannesburg

a Soviet made limpet mine was found on the seventh floor of the Rand Supreme Court yesterday only a few hours after a series of explosions had deprived much of north-western Transvaal of electricity.

The bombs added to the atmosphere of unrest and tension which has centred for past few days on Sharpeville and other black townships along the Vaal river about 40 miles south of Johannesburg.

Scattered arson, looting and stone-throwing continued in the townships, and police fired rubber bullets and tear gas canisters to disperse rioters. Violence also flared anew in the last Rand township of Tembisa, where a primary school was torched and a bear hall set alight.

In a situation which could have become ugly, several thousand Sharpeville blacks confronted police, who were in armoured vehicles, and demanded negotiations with white

reply was given. "They are offering nothing," he said.

Officials from the Orange-Vaal Development Board, the white body with ultimate responsibility for the black townships in the region, were eventually summoned and met a small delegation of Sharpeville residents, led by an Anglican priest.

Talks continued for most of the day and ended without agreement. Mr Monizel Radebe, a member of the Sharpeville delegation, said he and his colleagues had told the white officials that they would refuse to pay more than 30 rand (£14) a month for rent, water and electricity.

This is about half what residents are now paying. Mr Radebe said officials were also told that the boycott of schools and places of work would continue until a satisfactory

Botha elected President

South Africa's former Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, was yesterday unanimously elected to the new post of President by an Electoral College consisting of 50 white MPs, 25 mixed-race Coloured MPs and 13 Indian MPs (Our Johannesburg Correspondent writes).

The members of the College were chosen by majority vote from the white, Coloured and Indian houses of the new tricameral Parliament, which is

the central feature of the revised constitution in force since midnight last Sunday. As President, he will act both as head of state and retain the executive authority previously vested in the Prime Minister under the old Westminster-type parliamentary system which now fades into history.

Mr Botha will remain President-elect until September 14, when he will be formally sworn into office.

Minister survives Beirut death blast

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

If it had happened to anyone else, the Lebanese would not have been surprised. But for would-be assassin to attack Dr Selim el-Hoss on the very feast of *Eid*, was a shock even in Beirut.

Dr el-Hoss was one of those government ministers — a liberal Sunni Muslim with a respectable academic background and a genuine compassion for the poor — who should have had some kind of immunity from physical assault. The car bomb that exploded so bloodily on the cliffs-top at Raouche yesterday morning proved everyone wrong.

The Minister of Education and Labour had been driving in his limousine to the home of Sheikh Hassan Khaled, the country's Sunni Muslim religious leader, when the explosives, apparently set off by radio in a green Renault car, blasted across the main sea front road amid a cluster of fish restaurants at the very moment Dr el-Hoss passed.

One of his gendarmerie motorcycle escorts was immediately beheaded, his body hurled 25 feet by the explosion. Three

other people, including another police guard and a middle-aged woman pedestrian, were killed instantly.

Amid the litter of blood, corpses, petrol and broken glass, Dr el-Hoss was pulled from his car and driven to the American University hospital, where he was treated for cuts and shock.

"I am perfectly well," he told radio reporters afterwards. "This is not the first crime in the Lebanese crisis, but I hope it will be the last." — an earnest enough prayer that is highly unlikely to be granted.

From the position of the car bomb, it looked as if the potential assassins were intent on murdering not just Dr el-Hoss but Shaikh Khaled and Shaikh Muhammad Mehdi Shamseddin, the Shia Muslim spiritual leader as well. Dr el-Hoss was to have been escorted both of them to the Imam Ali mosque for dawn prayers to mark the *Eid* feast.

The feast celebrates Abraham's sacrifice, and it would be difficult to imagine a more emotive time upon which to kill Lebanon's principal Muslim leaders. No organisation claimed responsibility.

Boycott fine for UK deal

By Richard Dowden

An American company has been fined under United States anti-boycott laws because its British subsidiary allegedly complied with the Arab boycott of Israel.

Celotex Corporation of Tampa Florida, was fined \$7,500 (£5,800) by the Commerce Department because its UK's alleged compliance with boycott rules.

Mr James Kynes, executive vice-president of Celotex Corp, said that, in a £4,500 deal with Libya over some ceiling tiles, the Libyans added to an invoice the condition that the company should not do business with Israel. This went unnoticed at the time, but the company later reported it to the Commerce

Department, without admitting guilt.

• WASHINGTON — Digital Equipment Corporation, a major US computer company, has been fined \$1.5m (£1.15m) over dealings between its West German subsidiary and a businessman alleged to have smuggled high-technology equipment to the Soviet Union, in what the Commerce Department said was the biggest penalty imposed under the Export Administration Act.

It said Mr Richard Mueller, who runs a company called Deutsche Integrated Time, had been denied US export privileges for 20 years after he was found to have illegally re-exported products of US origin

Labour and Likud share out the jobs

From Moshe Brilliant

Tel Aviv — Israeli coalition negotiators yesterday finally got down to discussing who gets what post in the proposed government of national unity and how some of the smaller parties can be integrated into the administration.

Mr Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister designate, and Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the outgoing Prime Minister, conferred in Jerusalem and also met separately with delegations from smaller parties. Eight of the 15 parties which won seats in the recent Knesset elections have already agreed to back a broad coalition, assuring it of 92 of the 120 votes.

According to proposals discussed yesterday, the Cabinet would comprise between 20 and 24 ministers, but there would be an inner Cabinet of six or eight. The two big parties would have parity in seats.

Likud accepted Labour's condition that Mr Peres should head the Government for two years and one month and then resign with a recommendation to the President and the Knesset that Mr Shamir be elected for the remainder of Parliament's four-year tenure. Until then Mr Shamir would be Deputy Prime Minister under Mr Peres and Foreign Minister, offices that would go to Mr Peres in the 1986 switch.

Likud also withdrew its demand that the defence portfolio also be rotated.

Likud would get the Treasury and Justice portfolios and Labour would get education, probably for former President Yitzhak Navon.

The controversy over the Jewish settlements in the proposed government programme was settled by a formula by which the new government would recognize the validity of decisions by the outgoing government concerning settlements in occupied territories, but the timing and extent of development shall be decided by the Cabinet.

Voyage of Discovery ends in triumphFrom Mohsin Ali
Washington

The space shuttle Discovery, third orbiter in the US fleet, made a beautiful landing at dawn yesterday after a near-perfect six-day maiden flight.

With its crew of six, it glided to touchdown at Edwards Air Force Base, California. Discovery's triumphant return after launching three commercial communications satellites put NASA back in the space freighter delivery business.

The orbiter's maiden flight, twelfth in the shuttle programme, was even less trouble-some than the inaugural missions of its predecessors, Columbia and Challenger.

The only problem in space was the formation of a mysterious ice chunk which worried mission control in Houston until it was knocked off the left side of the shuttle on Wednesday.

In its final hours in orbit, astronauts stopped a leak in an oxygen storage tank by closing it and switching to a back-up.

The 162-ton ship flew about 2.5 million miles - 96 times round the earth.

The crew, including Judy Resnik, the second American woman in space, accomplished all their main tasks, including delivery of a giant solar sail and processing of a secret payload.

"If you discount the ice, everything else has been

absolutely perfect", Mr John Cox, the flight director, said.

The separate deployment of the satellites on the first three days in space was a welcome relief to NASA officials and restored the confidence of commercial users.

The last time satellites were ejected from a shuttle, last February, they were "lost" when identical booster rocket failures put them in erratic orbits rendering them useless.

The flawless erection and



In person: President Chernenko at the Kremlin yesterday presenting the Order of Lenin, the highest civilian Soviet award, to the cosmonaut Miss Svetlana Savitskaya, the first woman to walk in space.

Bonn puts a brave face on Honecker's postponed visit

From Michael Binion, Bonn

The West German cabinet yesterday discussed the decision by Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, to call off his visit here in September and decided to put a brave face on what has been a bitter blow to the Kohl Government's hopes of further improvements in relations between the two Germanies.

A government spokesman said Chancellor Helmut Kohl still expected relations to develop, and government sources made it clear they saw a Soviet veto as the real reason for the visit's postponement. The spokesman said the East German leader would be accorded all proper ceremony in any future visit and would also be able to visit Bonn, which had not been planned for the present visit because of the difficulties it set in suggesting a return Kohl

Much criticism has been directed against Herr Alfred Dregger, the CDU floor leader, whose remark that West Germany did not depend on Herr Honecker doing the honour of a visit was cited by the East German news agency as evidence of "unseemly controversy" in the federal republic.

Herr Dregger himself said he was not surprised at the cancellation, as the visit did not fit in with Moscow's plans. Herr Volker Rühe, the CDU deputy floor leader, said pinning the blame on Herr Dregger was a mere pretext.

But there has been sharp criticism by the press and the Opposition of the Government's handling of the preparations and of statements by leading Christian Democrats which were used as a pretext for calling off the visit.

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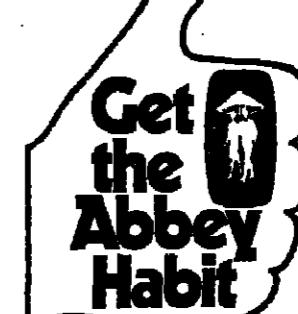
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SPECTRUM

Power and glory of Greene at 80

Graham Greene is 80 on October 2. His career has spanned almost 60 years in which he has produced novels, film scripts, essays, criticism and journalism. Now he stands alone as the most widely accepted and appreciated of British writers. His struggles with religion, politics and personality have made him one of the most discussed and accessible authors of his generation. Yet personally he has remained remote, shunning publicity and avoiding commentary on his works. *The Times* has asked prominent figures in many fields to pay their respects to his genius.

LORD GOWRIE
Minister for the Arts

Years ago, I sat between Graham Greene and Eartha Kitt at a lunch party. They were well suited and, as was only reasonable, talked across me. Kindness prompted Greene to bring me in.

He was nearing 60 and complained that a peril of age was that you were supposed to give advice to the young. His view was that everyone should try to start a career by becoming a foreign correspondent of *The Times*. A literalist, I tried and failed to do this, but joined the *Educational Supplement* instead. It would have been more Graham Greenish to get a counter-strike from Miss Kitt.

As is the case with his exact contemporary, Christopher Isherwood, it is difficult to think of Greene as any older than he has ever been: the sensitivity of a young man older than his years.

I wish he had written more short stories (the collection, as well as the title piece, *May We Borrow Your Husband?*) is one of the funniest things in English) and more novels like *Dr Fischer*. His genius is for the comedy that just makes bearable the predictable and universal sadness of human motivation. He is a bit sentimental about God and the Third World, both of whom, in their mid-Twentieth century guises, he has in effect invented.

A. J. AYER
Philosopher and author

I admire the works of Graham Greene more than those of any other living novelist. This is in spite of the fact that I wholly lack the religious faith which inspires some of his best books like *The Heart of the Matter* and *The Power and the Glory*. I find no great difference of quality between books of this sort and what he calls his

"entertainments", *Our Man in Havana*, *The Comedians* and *The Honorary Consul* all occupy a high place in my assessment of his work.

It is encouraging to note how successful he has been in maintaining his standards throughout his eight decades. *The Human Factor*, which appeared in 1978, was as moving as anything that he has written.

His plays have not seemed to me to have attained quite the same high level as his novels, but their shortfall is counterbalanced by the excellence of his film scripts, as in *The Fallen Idol* and *The Third Man*.

It has been my good fortune to know Graham Greene for over 30 years, not only as a writer but as a man. In wishing him a happy birthday, I desire to pay tribute also to the public stand which he has taken, and continues to take, against manifestations of tyranny and injustice.



Greene at *The Times*: Greene was on the staff of *The Times* from 1926 to 1930. He had been educated at Berkhamsted and Balliol College, Oxford. He had been unhappy at school and in 1920 his father sent him for psychoanalysis, a radical step at the time. He has confessed to falling in love with the analyst's wife, who later remarked: 'What a pity Graham became a writer. He could have made such a good medium'. Greene's journalism was to continue with jobs as film critic and literary editor of *The Spectator* and his fascination, both fictional and real, with the job has never left him. His recent outbursts against corruption in the South of France have shown his determination to continue to observe the real world about him. 'For me political action is writing and nothing else. I've helped and defended some people by my writing. I've attacked some people by my writing.' As a protest against the imprisonment of Soviet dissidents, Greene asked the Russians to stop translating his books and tried to arrange for his blocked royalties to go to their wives.

MALCOLM MUGGERIDGE
Author

The prospect of becoming the G.O.M. of English Letters would at one time have appalled Graham Greene. Now, on his eightieth birthday, it must be seen as a just recognition of a long and variegated life dedicated to the craft of writing.

Whatever other preoccupations he may have had, when he picks up his pen it has always been to use words exactly and truthfully. He is, indeed, the most skilful and conscientious of contemporary writers.

Then – what has always fascinated me – there is his Catholicism, which, despite heresies and irregularities, has continued to occupy his mind, and perhaps also his soul. I cherish the memory of walking up and down with him by the Sea of Galilee and talking about the Incarnation as expounded in the New Testament. His favourite text is also mine: "Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief."

As a fellow octogenarian, sincerely and affectionately, I salute him.

A. J. AYER
Philosopher and author



'The young Graham Greene: "What is the good of wishing? The books are always there, the moment of crisis waits, and now our children in their turn are taking down the future and opening the pages" – from *The Lost Childhood*'



Greene abroad: Greene was in the Foreign Office from 1941 to 1944, a period in which he was involved in espionage, a fascination which has remained with him. His interest in the politics and spiritual life of the Third World is perhaps his most instantly recognizable characteristic as a writer. 'Greenland', the mythical territory in which his characters are always said to move, has always seemed to be a land of political unrest and constant danger – typically in South America or Africa. Such uncertainty always provided him with the sense of real pressure under which his characters are obliged to act. This obsession with the risky perimeter of civilization is summarized by one of his favourite quotations – from Browning: 'Our interest's on the dangerous edge of things'. His fascination with extreme political conditions in the Third World have often made him unpopular. His novel, *The Comedians* about life in Haiti under the dictatorship of Dr Francois Duvalier earned him a vicious attack in a Government pamphlet: 'An unbalanced man, a pervert, a writer with a pessimistic vision writing to commission.'

NICHOLAS LASH
Professor of Divinity, Cambridge

"It is not reason that is against us", said Cardinal Newman, "but imagination". Direct and honest exploration of the central paradoxes of Christian apprehension – of guilt and divine kindness, of God's glory lodged and leavening in insignificant particulars – is more than usually impossible in a culture whose imagination gives no space for the deployment of Christian vocabulary, confining it to a primate margin, on the edge of the esoteric, called "religion".

Admittedly, the problem partly springs from the poverty of the theologian's own resources. As Greene himself put it: "Much of the difficulty of theology arises from the efforts of men who are not primarily writers to distinguish a quite simple idea with the utmost accuracy". Lacking the writer's skill, the theologian's words (as Greene once said of papal encyclical) "have no bite, no sting, no concrete image".

The theologian's debt of gratitude, therefore, is in part acknowledgement of the fact that such accuracy is sometimes attained in the novelist's depicting. On one condition, however, and it is a condition which the convergence of Greene's political and religious perspectives (not many novelists have drawn an analogy between Fidel Castro and St Paul) has enabled him to satisfy. There must be no trace of the illusion that it is possible to survey human folly and suffering from some superior vantage point.

Looking "from the top down" things may make sense, but no man has ever been there. You have to be looking from the bottom up to speak, as the old priest does in *Brighton Rock*, of "the appalling strangeness of the mercy of God".

The passage of time has mellowed

moreover...
Miles Kington

Prophets and losses 40 years on

Why is it that forecasts for the future always limit themselves to politics and economics, which nobody can forecast for six months, yet alone 30 years, and never progress to the things that make life really interesting, like sport, music, cooking and holidays? Here is what the *Moreover* Computer thinks will be in the headlines in 2024.

Sport
Dame Virginia Wade goes narrowly out of the first round at Wimbledon, 6–0, 6–2, after a plucky performance against the Romanian 10-year-old, Monicu. Authorities agree that her game is not what it was, but conclude that she is still Britain's No.1.

Frank Thomas, heavyweight champion of the world according to the World Area Authority (recognized in California and Japan), beats WBNC champion Greg Wurley to become undisputed champion of California, Japan and New York. He now has only 18 more world champions to beat in order to become world champion.

In their opening Test match against the Channel Islands, England make heavy weather of the bowling of the two Jersey fast men and reach tea on the first day at 108 for 5 (Lord Boycott, not out).

"We threw it away", admits Scottish manager Ken McMurdo after the opening match of the World Cup Finals, in which his fancied team crash to the Venezuelans 5–0. "It's the old story – we think we can stroll it, so we're caught napping."

In an effort to produce brighter football and bring back soccer's missing millions, the FA decides on a new points system: one point for not retaliating after a foul, one for not kicking the ball away at a free kick, one for not passing back to a goalkeeper and one for not appealing when the ball goes out of play. The reward for a goal stands at 50 points.

Arts
Sir Jonathan Miller's production of *Twelfth Night*, starring veteran pop singer Old Boy George, receives mixed reviews. Some critics think that a punk, transvestite-nostalgia version makes a valid point; others object that Shakespeare's verse gets hidden in the effort. Sir Jonathan announces his retirement from the theatre.

London Transport starts an experimental ban on personal TV sets in the Underground.

An Unidentified Peasant, by the school of Corot, the last painting in private hands in Britain, is sold to a Russian collector by the Duke of Devonshire.

The new BBC-TV programme *Between 6 and 7*, another attempt to fill the early evening spot, is savaged by media critics.

Hollywood's revival hopes are pinned on the only film in production, *Rocky XXVII*, which tells the story of one man's bid to become the oldest heavyweight champion in history.

Leisure and Communications
The great retrospective exhibition based on the 1984 miners' strike, *King Coal*, is opened at the Victoria & Albert Museum by Sir Arthur Scargill. The opening ceremony is marred by clashes between police and public; there are 80 arrests.

The organizers of the Notting Hill Carnival complain that, although it was the biggest and best yet, the police are still tending to take over. "They have so many floats, do so much helmet-swapping and dance with the crowds so much that our people don't get much of a chance."

In the Fleet Street circulation battle, the Daily Mirror attempts the ultimate coup; to the winner of its newest competition it gives away the newspaper itself.

The Earl of Lichfield announces the theme of the new Pirelli calendar: *The Grandest Old Ladies in the World*.

Lord Ingrams denies rumours that he is thinking of giving up the editorship of *Private Eye*: "At my age it is far too late for me to think of getting another job, even if I were qualified for one", he says. "In any case, we need to raise more money for the pending libel case brought by Sir Auberon Waugh."

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 438)



ACROSS

1 Nameless (13)

2 Engine speed (3)

10 Intermediate (6)

11 Employment place (10)

13 Done (7)

16 Gaudy trinkets (7)

19 Diaper (5)

22 Chair strut (9)

24 Cut back (3)

25 State Department (7)

1 Third party deposit (6)

2 Tremble (6)

3 SE Asia Federation (8)

4 Successor (6)

5 Money voucher (4)

6 Consumate (6)

7 Worm (6)

12 Binge drink (3)

14 Surf (3)

15 Cryptesthesia (11)

16 Make into gas (6)

17 Barle shoot (3)

18 Inscrutable man (6)

20 German platform (6)

21 Joyful cry (6)

23 Neat (4)

SOLUTION TO No 437

ACROSS: 1 Upright 4 Alcove 7 Etna 8 Highrise 9 Roll over 13 Cam 16 Flight of fancy 17 Rail 19 Reaction 24 Assessor 25 Idler 26 Staff 27 Apathy

DOWN: 1 Used 3 Antoinette 3 Yahoo 4 Dope 5 Core 6 Vista 8 Lehar 11 Vicks 12 Tuna 13 Concord 14 Maya 15 Afar 16 Zinc 17 Basal 21 Circa 22 Peso 23 Defy

CLUES: 1 Nameless (13) 2 Engine speed (3) 3 SE Asia Federation (8) 4 Successor (6) 5 Money voucher (4) 6 Consumate (6) 7 Worm (6) 8 Intermediate (6) 9 Roll over (13) 10 Intermediate (6) 11 Employment place (10) 12 Binge drink (3) 13 Done (7) 14 Surf (3) 15 Cryptesthesia (11) 16 Make into gas (6) 17 Barle shoot (3) 18 Inscrutable man (6) 19 Reaction (6) 20 German platform (6) 21 Joyful cry (6) 22 Assessor (6) 23 Neat (4)

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BOOKS

FICTION

The trials of a modern Job, the nerves of a bookish spinster, and those crazy years from Dallas to Prague

The best of a bad Job

James Fenton
reviews a
modern problem
of God and pain

How can He
permit the
sufferings
of the world?

THE ONLY PROBLEM
By Muriel Spark
The Bodley Head, £7.95

The only problem of the title is the question of the relationship between God and the suffering of the world... If God is good, why does he allow it? If God is all-powerful, must he then be capable of evil? To insist that this is the only problem, as one of Muriel Spark's characters does, is fair enough once you believe in God. Harvey, a rich man with a wife who does not love him, poses a theory that the individual soul must have made a pact with God before being born. We agree beforehand that we will suffer on this earth. But during the process of being born, we forget that we have made the pact. We are volunteers for suffering. Whole tribes and nations might have made such a pact.

his theory and the allied question of the meaning of the *Book of Job* now tantalizingly around the story. Miss Spark has to tell Harvey, her chief character, has retired to his small house in France in order to write the study of Job. He craves solitude, or at least it seems that he craves solitude. But when his friends see him out the effect is to make him aware of his loneliness.

Harvey has in fact left his wife,

quite abruptly, during an Italian holiday. The incident over which he half-left her is trivial, but it turns out to be symptomatic. Effie has been in one of those motorway emporia and has stolen some bars of chocolate. She justifies her action by saying "Why shouldn't we help ourselves? These multinationals and monopolies are capitalizing on us, and two-thirds of the world is suffering."

If we see of Effie is this beautiful woman, married to a rich man, aiming to despise wealth, stuffing her mouth with chocolate and talking about the suffering two-thirds of the world. But we learn more about what happens to her after Harvey leaves her. She drifts off, has a child whom she shabbily abandons, and eventually becomes caught up in the terrorist movement, living off armed robbery.

For a character who remains off-stage throughout the book she exerts a great deal of influence, and the success or

France have very different traditions of terrorism, in both cases connected with colonial history. England itself has produced relatively few terrorists, although there have been, as it were, fellow-travelling terrorists.

Miss Spark's novel appears to be a kind of geographical compromise, grafting an Italian or German style of terrorism on an English girl and letting her join a gang in France. Consequently, although the setting of the book is quite specific, there is a sense of it being contrived. Apart from the police, none of the people we meet belong where we find them.

As Harvey progresses with his study, we expect his sufferings to parallel those of Job. But they do not exactly do so. What happens is that, having walked out on the woman he loved, he begins to receive all kinds of attention. The comforters cluster round.

failure of the novel depends very much on this brief characterization. Effie and Harvey represent two approaches to "human suffering". Harvey's approach is theological: he believes in God; he must torture himself with the same question as occurred to Job:

"What disgusts Harvey about Effie, during the incident over the chocolate, is that he can see her as a future terrorist. Sententious shoplifting is the first step towards self-righteous gangsterism."

I must say that this characterization is economical to the point of stinginess; but there is something in it. Effie and her sister, Ruth, are daughters of the vicarage; they are English, but they might very easily be (in real life) from the German terrorist world. Or Effie might be (in real life) an Italian.

It is worth noting here that the various countries of Western Europe produce different kinds of terrorist and rebel. The German kind and the Italian kind are connected with a delayed reaction against fascism – against the fascist parent, or the parent seen as a fascist. England and

France have very different traditions of terrorism, in both cases connected with colonial history. England itself has produced relatively few terrorists, although there have been, as it were, fellow-travelling terrorists.

France have very different traditions of terrorism, in both cases connected with colonial history. England itself has produced relatively few terrorists, although there have been, as it were, fellow-travelling terrorists.

Prolific fantasies

Nigel Andrew

THE LAUGHTER OF CARTHAGE
By Michael Moorcock
Scker & Warburg, £9.95

A CALL
By Ford Madox Ford
Carcanet, £8.95

and prophetic outpourings achieve an effect all their own. Moorcock has here created a fiction that is seething with detailed life at every level – in the headlines narrative, in the bravura passages of scene-setting, description, and, particularly, in the rendering of Pyat's vision of the world, a compendium of paranoid obsession, utopian reverie, apocalyptic foreboding and, somewhere in the midst of it all, a peculiar penetrating sanity. This novel sequence is building into nothing less than a crazed and lurid compendium of the historical processes central to the twentieth century. *Byzantium Endures* covered the years to the end of 1919. *The Laughter of Carthage* (in many more pages) takes us to 1924. There is, presumably, much more to look forward to.

epitaph to his life's work as a military historian.

Lewin suggests that the fundamental mistakes, which turned the pseudo-granite of the Third Reich into the dust and rubble of devastated Germany, had their origin in the limitations of his personality and in the deep flaws that fissured his character. He was sent by Providence to give Civilization to the world; the emptiness of his soul, devoid as it was of all humanity and fitting so aptly St Paul's words "though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels and have not love, I am become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal"; and his malignant egomaniac, that brooked no rivals and shut him off from the essential counsel of others whom he needed to supplement his all too human limitations of view, knowledge, and experience.

Few readers would disagree with Lewin's view that one of Hitler's greatest mistakes was to

Meanwhile this one deserves, at the least, a place on the Booker shortlist.

Also an inveterate fantasist, and equally prolific, Ford Madox Ford has survived, albeit as a minority taste. The latest of Carteret's admirable reissues is *A Call*, a short early novel (1910) of interest chiefly as a defective foreshadowing of greater things to come. Ford was under the impression that in this book he was addressing the central problems of "our day and our class": but, as Arnold Bennett pointed out, *A Call* is "profoundly and hopelessly untrue to life". It has far too much of the peculiar pretentiousness that mars even Ford's finest works, and for all its Jamesian colouring, it lacks "felt life".

But for all that, even second-rate Ford has its particular delights. The feel for small-scale structure and the sheer artistry of individual passages and scenes, are wonderful. Ford may be merely daydreaming in *A Call*, but if it is essentially the same daydream from which he was to elaborate *The Good Soldier* and *Parade's End*. Carcanet are to be congratulated for reissuing this fascinating and intermittently brilliant prototype.

The flaws in the Führer
William Jackson

HITLER'S MISTAKES
By Ronald Lewin
Scker & Warburg, £9.95

set out on the creation of his "Thousand Year Reich" for the total benefit of the Greater German people with nothing better to offer the rest of the world than thralldom to German efficiency. Few empires have flourished without bringing some boon to the conqueror: National Socialism had nothing for the lesser breeds beyond the Aryan pale. Lacking any feel for human fulfillment, Hitler's Teutonic Empire was doomed before the first panzer division went into action.

Basil Boothroyd

AN ABC OF NOSTALGIA
By E. S. Turner
Michael Joseph, £9.95

noticed?

Whistling and errand boys go together. Or did. They've gone.

So has whistling for cabs, not

whistling by natural gift, but

aided by the instrument of the

referee or railwayman. Seventy

years back, in London, it had

become enough of a nuisance to

be banned between ten at night

and seven in the morning.

Each oddity accretes its

supporting oddities. When a

guest of the Oswald Mosley's

Errand boys. Whistling. The

Two Minutes' Silence. The

Passing Bell has passed, with its

sombre codes notifying the sex

and age of the passer. Had we



Muriel Spark manipulates a suffering hero and his perishing wife

in a shoot-out. The terrorists take on the state, knowing that the state must, in the end, win. The state must kill the terrorist, in order to prove the terrorist's point that the state itself lives by terror. The German terrorists are saying: "We are your sons and your daughters – see how you kill us, you Fascists." And Effie is saying to Harvey: "You abandon me over an argument about capitalism. Now see if I am not right. Capitalism is going to kill me and ask you to identify the body."

It is a most strange novel, written with Miss Spark's great gift for the uncanny. And how concisely the whole thing is put. But yet it does leave the reader unsatisfied. It looked at the outset as if it was going to offer more. But, instead, it prefers to take its secret to time's grave.

Christopher says, probably quoting, that the most important thing about a book is what you leave out." Robert McCrum, fast-bowling a flurry of agreeably sour indiscretions about book publishing, largely ignores the maxim. Wrapped in a dust jacket montage of street fighting and Soviet tanks in Prague in 1968, his third novel is a glittery literary collage: beautifully organized language; word games placed with careful art to comfort a sad heart.

He shares it here with a "collaborator": a first-person master of ceremonies who has devised – "I use the word advisedly" – this narrative; with their amanuensis, Robert McCrum; and with Keith Waterhouse and Don Bannister, whose inventiveness, audacity, and humour likewise add to the sum of human happiness.

Keith Waterhouse says, probably

Adding to the sum of human happiness

Gay Firth

THE FABULOUS ENGLISHMAN
By Robert McCrum
Hanish Hamilton, £8.95

THINKS
By Keith Waterhouse
Michael Joseph, £8.95

THE SUMMER BOY
By Don Bannister
William Heinemann, £8.95

married, a commercial radio station manager fast approaching the end of more than his career. Nondescript, middle-aged, overweight in a light creased, blue velvet suit, he looks "as same as anyone on this £3.33 to Victoria." He is. So I am. I. So are you.

There is not an ordinary, unexceptional member of the human race who does not think extraordinary thoughts in that bubbling stew of fury, frustration and disappointment.

the human brain. At least Bapt's silent rages are exuberant. They harm no-one, except vicariously. That is the best that can be said for them, and Keith Waterhouse says it, loud and clear. For the rest, living, or rather thinking, vicariously, is a trait which he who lives a novel shares with those who read it. Feel free to leave, sir, madam: but look in the mirror first. Your lips are moving.

The *Summer Boy*, Martin Morley, a junior reporter on the newspaper in his Yorkshire home town, is too deeply engaged with his own life to live or think vicariously in any way. So far, so good for him: readers will count themselves lucky to share, even vicariously, his 20-year-old energy, decency, and promise.

Not the least remarkable feature of Don Bannister's remarkable fourth novel is the way it shows – if we look beyond a good strong plot, interesting action, and vivid characterizations matched to dialogue wonderfully audible, not just readable – how integrity and optimism begin to fray into melancholy. Martin will be lucky if he can continue to resist coming to terms with the corrosive cynicism commonplace in "adult" attitudes and behaviour. In the meantime, cry God for his editor, known as "God": for a Chief Reporter determined to "make some sort of a newspaperman out of you yet"; and for novels which, in pursuing excellence rather than happiness, give both.

Art in limitations

Bryan Appleyard

HOTEL DU LAC
By Anita Brookner
Cape, £7.95

details.

If the effect is finally suffocating, leaving the reader craving for all the artifice to break under the strain then that is the inevitable result of Miss Brookner's determination to play the game to the end.

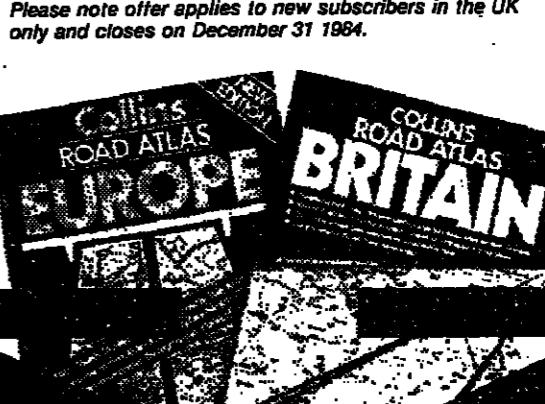
David Lodge has pointed out that at times she veers close to the atmosphere of *Sartre's Nausea* with her characters' obsessive alienation from common perception; and certainly in this novel it seems a clear that a little less control, an easing up on the decorum, could topple the prose over into that landscape. Indeed the very first sentence of the book seems to toy with an altogether bleaker style: "From the window all that could be seen was a receding area of grey." But undifferentiated grey is not for her. She needs the discipline of her form and the social and gregarious tradition from which it springs.

For if this is a novel about limitations, then it should be remembered how many of them are gratefully accepted.

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Basil Boothroyd

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noticed?

Whistling and errand boys go

together. Or did. They've gone.

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Errand boys. Whistling. The

Two Minutes' Silence. The

Passing Bell has passed, with its

sombre codes notifying the sex

and age of the passer. Had we

aircraft passengers standing to attention, while even the pilot altitude



THE TIMES DIARY

Skeleton in the closet

Neil Kinnock's condemnation of picket-line violence at the TUC conference brought accusations of hypocrisy yesterday from one group of cynical Kent miners. Chatting at a conference bar, they were quick to raise an incident in Brighton in 1981 when Kinnock splattered a Grand Hotel lavatory with blood after beating up a young man. It happened at the end of what was described as the "ugliest week in Kinnock's political career", during which he opposed Tony Benn's bid for deputy leadership. Kinnock, then shadow education spokesman, was alone in the lavatory washing his hands when a youth walked in and kicked Kinnock on the elbow.

Kinnock then seized him, pulling him in close. "And then I beat the SSSS out of him," he had confided to friends, adding later that apparently there was "blood and vomit all over the floor". As for his peaceful support of the NUM, the miners recalled how Kinnock offered one collector at the Durham Miners Gala this summer a 50p piece. "If that's all you want to give, keep it," said the miner as he threw it back indignantly.

Low-spirited

If any of the units on the British Army's Exercise Lionheart are plotting to celebrate its launch this week by raiding any cocktail cabinets along the way, they are in for a disappointment. The strongest stuff is likely to be soda pop. One unit eased the rigours of the last comparable exercise, "Crusader", by throwing a champagne breakfast at one of the stopping points. Wives and girlfriends were invited. This was not viewed as being entirely in keeping with the martial spirit, and an imperial rocket of complaint was launched from the office of the Chief of General Staff. Things, as they say, go better with Coke.

Grin and bear it

The bearlike figure of Boris Averyanov, veteran leader of Soviet observers to the TUC, was strangely absent from this year's opening. Fears were that Averyanov, who has attended Congresses since 1957 and is invariably first in the hall, had been put off by last year's objections to his presence in the wake of the Korean airline affair. Not so. By yesterday a seat in the visitors' gallery was once more groaning beneath his 17-odd stone. He had been delayed apparently by an important Politburo meeting in Moscow. "I told the General Secretary," he complained, "but he wouldn't listen".

• The "cure-all" well in Medina, Saudi Arabia, used by thousands for its "miraculous medical powers", has been closed. The Medina Governorate said its water was "unfit for human consumption".

Strike a light

NUM vice-president Mick McGahey has been negotiating hard – not with Ian MacGregor but with the kiosk boy in Brighton's Metropole Hotel. Unwilling to pay £1.40 for cigarettes in the hotel bar, he has been quibbling daily about the kiosk price of £1.20 on the grounds that they cost only £1.00 "down the road". Like MacGregor, the boy has stubbornly refused to compromise.

BARRY FANTONI



I loved his interpretation of Scargill and MacGregor'

Price of youth

Bookseller James Ferguson plays an interesting game in the latest *Books & Bookmen*: judging the collector's value of first editions of novelist's first books. The premium is on youth. Preteenager Martin Amis's *The Rachel Papers* fetches £40, while whipper-snapper William Boyd's *A Good Man in Africa*, published in 1981, is now worth £50. Sadly, the outstanding Muriel Spark's first work changes hands for just £35 – although even that is better than Gore Vidal. Ferguson estimates his 1946 debut, *A Witch-Woman*, is today worth absolutely nothing.

Squashed

Twenty-one years after the Victoria and Albert Museum set up a special committee to look into acquiring a computer for its cataloguing, an impressive-looking ACT Apricot has arrived. But the curators' joy was short-lived. The new technology is for display only, first in the "Office of the Future" exhibition, and then on permanent show in the furniture department. So it is back to quill pens and ledgers.

Why Hongkong must learn to rule

by David Howell

In the next few weeks the die will be cast for Hongkong. It is true that the agreement being reached with Beijing is to be subject to the approval of Parliament and to an assessment of local Hongkong opinion. But once the British Government has secured a carefully balanced package deal from the Chinese there will clearly be no room for amendments and it is inconceivable that Parliament would turn down what the Government commands. So the next few weeks will be decisive in shaping the future for Hongkong's five million inhabitants.

Contrary to much self-congratulatory press comment in London, the agreement will not be a very satisfactory, let alone a glorious, episode in British overseas policy. Sir Geoffrey Howe has certainly rescued a near-calamitous situation by patient negotiation. In the next 10 to 13 years there is time enough for fortunes to be made and for new equipment to be installed, depreciated and written off maybe twice over before the new order begins to cast its shadow over daily life.

And after that? If Hongkong is really left alone for 50 years the business possibilities are endless – new power stations to be built in China, trade and financial links with the mainland to be further expanded, neighbouring Guangdong province showing distinct capitalist tendencies, with other parts of China following on.

The trouble is that for most people and their families quite different rules apply. Children and grandchildren last longer than machines, and family roots go deeper than business investments. Hongkong may be one of the world's

greatest conglomerations of financial and entrepreneurial skills, but it is much more than that. It is a vastly prosperous society of millions; a city-state, in fact a nation.

It has enjoyed freedom under the rule of law without the agonies of power and politics. The gap was filled by dedicated British officials providing not imperial control but an invaluable service – sound and fair administration.

But how on earth can a society which has had no politics somehow grow a genuine government over the next decade, strong enough to co-exist for years to come with mainland China, without turning into a puppet regime, an autonomous region in the usual meaningless Communist sense, rather than a truly separate system?

The British Government's Green Paper on political development in Hongkong has unleashed a swirl of debate, and even some enthusiasm. But Hongkong's potential leaders, not to mention its administrators, need to know that their efforts are going to be allowed to endure and are not simply going to earn them the label of "unpatriotic", to be brushed aside in favour of more compliant nominees when 1997 comes.

People can be forgiven for assuming on the basis of past experience that without outside guarantees this is all too likely to happen.

It is therefore imperative that the agreement to be finalised at the end of this month should give

much more substance than has so far been visible to the concept of a distinct and separate Hongkong government after 1997. The Foreign Secretary has spoken of the forthcoming agreement being legally binding internationally. This must be reinforced with hoops of steel.

If the Chinese are as committed as they say to a capitalist Hongkong – which requires, of course, a government which is a separate entity with international legal status – they should welcome international underwriting after 1997 as a means of maintaining essential confidence.

The second imperative is that the unsettled issues of passports and nationality, land rights and civil aviation policy should be handled with the greatest resolution over the next few weeks.

In particular, it is fundamental to Hongkong life that people should know clearly the legal basis on which they hold land or lease from the government. And it is vital that the two million Hongkong people holding British passports continue to have these renewed and recognized internationally, even if they provide no right of abode in the UK in present circumstances.

But the British task now, in these final days of negotiation, is to ensure by every possible entrenching device that a genuine Hongkong administration will be allowed to govern, that the chances of this amazing, vast, citadel of freedom and free enterprise surviving free and un molested are maximized and that the unique historic experiment of "two systems in one country" truly works and is not betrayed.

The author is Conservative MP for Guildford.

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Ronald Butt

The SDP needs a tail to get ahead

principal emphasis has been elsewhere. Competition has been praised as well as compassion, and Dr Owen openly argues that effective welfare means adopting a policy of selectivity and abandoning the overriding welfare principle.

Former Labour activists now in the SDP are slowly coming to terms with this way of thinking, and it is not impossible that present Labour voters, (non-striking Nottinghamshire miners among them) with "middle-class" ideas of personal responsibility might be weaned tilt too. They would also be natural supporters of Dr Owen's vigorous patriotism.

Dr Owen, it must be said, claims a firmer foundation for his advocacy of competition than the logic of his party's general position entitles him to. His remains a planning pay-off, and he openly laments the decline in confidence in industry planning. The SDP's "green paper" in competitiveness will assess whether the government should assist the rise of new industries and cushion the decline of old with preferential investment capital, with bureaucrats planning which industries should fall into which category.

The SDP censures the Government for its "narrow" commitment to zero inflation, and Dr Owen attacks the Chancellor for of admitting that recent economic growth is the consequence of loosening money policy – ignoring the fact that money restraints could not have been loosened without the measures to defeat inflation which he condemns. The SDP remain a party that believes in government action to remove the world's evils.

But that will always be the nature of the party of the left, and what matters is that the SDP expresses beliefs in civilized terms that respect liberty and enterprise. That is its potential advantage. Dr Owen as given it a direction and coherence which means that the SDP will have no inclination to discuss its relations from that of its Labour predecessors. But Labour is still the principle obstacle faced by the SDP in any swing-of-the-pendulum election.

Satisfied with Dr Owen, they rightly see no value in amalgamating with a Liberal Party that includes too many of the kind of people they tried to escape from when they left the Labour Party, and too much other absurdity. If the SDP is a had without a tail, the Liberals are a huge tail without a head, with their grassroots in a clear direction. It is not a tail for the SDP heads become attached to; the tiny head might suffer a horrid metamorphosis into something dangerous like Mr Michael Meadowcroft.

As a head with a strong leader, the SDP is in the business of attracting tail, preferably from the old Labor vote. That is the gamble the SDP's taking under Dr Owen; that is the purpose of keeping its individual identity. The odds against it coming off are large but the risks worthwhile. The SDP will have no future as an element of the pay known as Liberal. But if it could make headway along its present path, it would be for the health of the nation to have a social democratic rather than a socialist party as the principal alternative to the Tories.

Gerald Kaufman

Don't let them milk us for profits

In German the word is *ultrahechtlitz*, an ugly description of a repulsive substance.

For me it all came to a head in the Reckless garden restaurant, Lucerne. I had just finished an agreeable (and reasonably inexpensive) lunch and was awaiting with pleasurable anticipation a cup of excellent Swiss coffee. The waitress approached and set down in front of me a cup from which wafted a heavenly aroma. On the saucer, however, squatted evilly a small brown container with fluted sides.

Insultingly, its little lid was decorated with a mountain flower. I let out a howl of anger and dismay.

Concerned, the waitress asked if anything was wrong.

"I asked for cream with my coffee," I lamented, "and you have brought me" – my voice quivered with anguish as I pointed to the brown container – "this".

"But that is cream", she responded soothingly.

"No it is not. It is UHT *ultrahechtlitz*. It ruins the taste of everything it touches."

"We serve it to everyone", said the waitress. "But if you want fresh cream, we will of course get it for you." She did so, bringing a little china jug whose contents I added to my coffee. The taste was as magnificent as the aroma: as I savoured it, however, I contemplated the fuss I had made to make. For two weeks I had been in Austria and Switzerland, countries whose hillsides are almost totally obscured by grazing cows. Evidence of the fecundity of these cows was provided by the whipped cream that was served on soup, on fruit, on ice cream, on almost anything that one cared to name – except coffee, to accompany which those loathsome little containers marked UHT were provided over and over again.

Repeatedly I had complained. Now, however, sitting in this pleasant garden, I asked myself how many others did not complain; how many others, adopting the line of least resistance, accepted the muck they were given and had a small but important pleasure spoiled as a result.

For the serving of these nasty substitutes for fresh dairy products

is designed entirely for the convenience of caterers. Large numbers of them have decided no longer to risk spending money on fresh milk or cream, which may be wasted or go sour. Instead, they purchase vast quantities of Ultra-Hot Treat material, which lasts a long time and involves much less waste for them.

Of course, these substances split the beverages to which they are added, but that is no concern of the suppliers. Of course, the cost of manufacturing all those little containers is quite substantial, but the cost is added to the price of the unpleasant beverage that the consumer is obliged to drink. Instead of catering being intended to make profits by supplying the wants of the consumer, it is increasingly being turned into a business conducted at the expense of the consumer in both financial and gustatory terms.

My little protest in the Reckless restaurant, and all the other little protests that I and perhaps a small minority of others have made, by themselves have no influence. What is needed is a mass movement of consumers who will cry out in every possible occasion, "Enough's enough." A campaign is necessary. We need badges to wear in restaurants and cafeterias, with the slogan: "I reject UHT". We need to demonstrate that there is more profit to be gained from satisfying customers than from exploiting them.

That will not be the end of the battle. There are other enemies to be fought: the disgusting little pats of butter, wrapped in paper, that get all over the hands and smear the clothes; the useless electric hand dryers installed in public washrooms; the foul rubbish called Maxxie, which British Rail foists on travellers under the pretence that one kind is tea and another is coffee.

If we are determined, we can get rid of these and other banes of society, in which the consumer is increasingly regarded as an inconvenience to the making of profits. The fight back must begin somewhere. Let it first objective be the obliteration of UHT.

The author is Labour MP for Gorton.

Michael Binyon looks behind the rhetoric of Honecker's cancelled visit

Bonn

Erich Honecker's proposed visit to West Germany crashed on the rocks of Soviet opposition. The East German leader has been left to salvage what he can of his policies towards Bonn, but it is plain to him and to all the world that he was never fully master of his own ship.

The East Germans, of course, have blamed Bonn for the shipwreck, citing "unseemly" political controversy over the visit – a charge the West German government has forcefully rejected. But in one important respect the Kohl government has only itself to blame. By allowing the spectre of German reunification to hover over the political debate on relations between the two German states, Bonn's politicians not only appeared to lend substance to the absurd – and cynically manipulated – Soviet charges of revisionism, but gave Herr Honecker the pretext needed for calling off the visit.

There is a basic contradiction in West German policies towards East Germany which opponents of Ostpolitik at home and abroad have not been slow to utilize. On the one hand West Germany has not given up its dream of reunification; the concept of a reunited country after fair and free elections on both sides is enshrined in the preamble to the constitution, and all West German politicians insist there is still one German "nation", even if it is now divided into two states. On the other hand former Chancellor Willy Brandt extended de facto recognition to East Germany as a separate state.

In good times the contradiction did not matter. In the heyday of détente the Russians were able to accept the formula of a "letter on German unity" setting out Bonn's legal position.

But in bad times, when East-West relations are at a low ebb, the Russians have chosen to direct their propaganda against those politicians here who insist the German question is still open, or those groups of exiles and right-wingers who insist the eastern frontier between East Germany and Poland is not yet legally settled.

It is doubly unfortunate, therefore, that just such a discussion should have begun again here now, when the Kohl government was trying to entice a cautiously eager Honecker into making his first visit to the land of his birth. The recent remark by Herr Hans Apel, a former Social Democratic minister and SPD mayoral candidate in Berlin, that the German question was no longer open immediately prompted a sharp reaction from members of the CDU government.

At the same time Chancellor Kohl's decision to be the first chancellor for 13 years to address the congress of exiles expelled from German territories in the East after the war was symbolically provocative.



A German dream fountaining on the rock of Realpolitik

Given the delicacy of Honecker's relations with Moscow, it did not matter that Kohl insisted his government upheld all treaties signed with the East; his presence was enough for the Russians to claim he was taking those unreconciled to the border changes under his wing.

In many ways reunification – however unlikely in present circumstances – provokes a gut reaction in both East and West. It is also beginning to raise eyebrows in Washington, where there is little sympathy for Bonn's wishes to strengthen links with the communists.

Rapprochement is a better word to describe the real aim of the Federal Republic. How much has this been set back by the postponement of the Honecker visit – a postponement which looks to many like a permanent cancellation – in the short term. The answer is that the movement has been halted in its tracks. East Germany may now be persuaded to take a much tougher stance on the legal issues of reunification.

But officially to give up the dream altogether is to give up the ideal which inspires West Germany's feelings of responsibility for its countrymen "over there". This feeling is vital to the bulk of the East German people as well, who do not want to be left in the lurch by their western neighbour. Without the dream it is not so certain that West Germany would be willing to part

In the long term, however, both

sides have a keen interest in seeing their relations develop further. The East Berlin regime would face serious internal opposition if it tried abruptly to cut those links that have already been forged. More importantly, the GDR needs West German money and markets.

Bonn has often said the road to rapprochement would be stony and full of pitfalls. It will not be deflected from its course by the scrapping of a visit that, in the circumstances, might have caused more difficulties for both sides than the value of its symbolic seal.

Both East and West Germany have a tacit understanding not to embarrass each other in their respective alliances. Herr Honecker had clearly reached the limit of tolerance in his own alliance. Bonn will be careful not to be seen to try to play off East Berlin against Moscow or to embarrass Honecker further by cultivating him while ignoring Soviet sensibilities. But for relations to develop now Kohl's government and members of his party must learn to watch their remarks.

West Germany is a land of free expression, as the chancellor's office pointed out on Tuesday, and public debate over the German question is not to be suppressed. Germans, as *Die Zeit* said recently, must be allowed to dream their dreams of reunification. But such dreams must not be confused with today's politics, for they are quickly misunderstood abroad.

Political speeches? Adding that the treaties represented "a compass towards peace" if it is all just a big lie, well at least we will soon know.

Vast, racially diverse, and volatile, Colombia has never been an easy country to govern. Yet the military have intervened only once this century – to quell *La violencia* – and the country has continued to muddle along as a functioning imperfect democracy despite threats to public order from the nefarious drug racket as well as subversion.

Belandur, a Christian Democrat who won on the conservative ticket, has taken a bold gamble but one riddled with dangers. It is not clear whether the guerrilla groups, and M-19 in particular, can bring all their members into line behind the ceasefire pact. Right-wing death squads threaten to kill subversives returning to civilian life, the military are unhappy, kidnappings continue, and drug racketeers are ready to step up arms and funds to the guerrillas as well.

Above all, recession greatly restricts Belandur's ability to introduce real social reforms.

Although his government has had great success in slashing inflation, unemployment is high and the shanty towns are almost totally obscured by grazing cows. Evidence of the fecundity of these cows was provided by the whipped cream that was served on

soup, on fruit, on ice cream

eds a
lead



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WCIX 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

CLEAN SWEEP IN CANADA

A gale, rather than a wind of change has blown through Canada. It would be difficult to exaggerate the achievement of Mr Brian Mulroney and the Progressive Conservatives in Tuesday's general election. The blast has flattened the mighty Liberal Party. The campaign has not been a contest over issues so much as a clash between personalities. Both new men, Mr Mulroney and Mr John Turner, the prime minister, offered the country change. This was an easier task for the former. Mr Turner, after the long years of Mr Pierre Trudeau's Liberal governments, found it impossible to woo an electorate weary of his party.

Mr Mulroney fought a masterful campaign. Within the party he is of the progressive rather than conservative wing and he has been skilled in capturing the electoral middle ground from the Liberals. He avoided as much as possible being specific on policies, but was free with general promises. So this is not exactly the ideological landslide sweeping conservative victories in the United States and United Kingdom have been.

Not least of Mr Mulroney's achievements in the fifteen months since he became leader has been to hold his party together and to convince them that they could win. The Tories have been famous for their inability to avoid damaging squabbles. Mr Mulroney's firm, if often deliberately vague, lead has been decisive. He has

Mr Turner faltered, while Mr

worked hard at the grass roots and has been rewarded across the country.

His strategy in Quebec, of which he is a native and now a sitting member, has been triumphantly vindicated. The Tories had one of the 75 seats in the province; now they have 58. There will undoubtedly be a strong Quebec representation in Mr Mulroney's first cabinet (and presumably will be found for Mr Roch LaSalle, who was the lone Tory representative from Quebec in the outgoing parliament).

What Mr Mulroney had to do – and, apart from a slight stumble or two in the closing stages, he did it with great skill – was to steer his course and let the disenchantment of the electorate with the Liberals and the blunders of an often out-of-touch Mr Turner take their effect. The Liberals were the party of government in Canada because their position was just left of centre, middle class but reformist and with concern for the minorities and the less privileged. Mr Turner started off too far to the right. His opponents were able to depict him as being anti-minorities, of being for the "haves" rather than the "have-nots". Although he tried to centralize his position as the campaign wore on (bringing in Senator Keith Davey as manager of his campaign, promising tax increases for the wealthy), Mr Turner was never able to resolve the contradictions.

Mr Turner faltered, while Mr

OTHER BUSINESS AT BRIGHTON

Somewhere in Brighton, almost overwhelmed by the sound and fury of the mining dispute, the trade unions of Britain are holding their annual congress. The conflict is so momentous in its consequences, so eye-catching in its succession of dramatic incidents, that it is easy to lose sight of the fact that one of the principal organized partners in our society is meanwhile assessing its course of action for the coming year over a range of issues far wider than any one dispute, and touching almost every aspect of political and industrial life.

Of course, the entire labour movement to some extent is forced to wait in arrest until the conflict has resolved itself, for the outcome will do much to determine its role and character for years to come. But there are many currents of feeling in the movement, which the outcome of the coal dispute may either reinforce or damp up, and they are not without their own significance.

One candidate who lost his place on the TUC general council in Tuesday's elections professed himself incredulous that figures like Bill Sims and John Lyons had easily secured re-election in spite of their public refusal to give lip-service to the statement that secured the semblance of united TUC support to the miners. Many of the delegates who gave Mr Scargill a standing ovation before he even began to speak on Monday – and perhaps some of those who ferociously barracked Mr Lyons

at the rostrum – must have quietly given their votes to the men who dared say that they would not and could not require their members to throw their own jobs away to save moribund pits. Overall, the general council is little changed in political colour since the move towards moderation brought about by last year's voting reforms. If it is more unpredictable on some issues, that is more because Nalgo moved to the left at its last annual conference than because of any wider change of mood.

It is always necessary in trade union affairs to give both sentiment and prudence their due. The indivisible and invincible movement of myth has to be reconciled with the need to take account of the reservations of the rank and file – reservations which find ready expression these days, through fear of unemployment, distaste for being dragged into disputes for show, and a taste for being consulted whetted by the prospect of statutory rights to a ballot.

Tuesday's debate on employment law, probably the most psychologically illuminating in this year's congress, showed sentiment and prudence grappling for the upper hand, and reaching a characteristic accommodation. The general council was censured for having refused to let the NGA barge it into an illegal token strike in support of its mob tactics in the Stockport Messenger dispute, in spite of Mr Len Murray's unanswerable insistence that to do so would

DANGEROUS TO KNOW

Last Saturday Colonel Gaddafi spoke at a military parade in Tripoli to mark the fifteenth anniversary of the revolution which brought him to power. He spoke at some length, as is his wont, and dwelt on the theme of Arab unity, which is a favourite subject of his. He promised to "continue to mobilize the forces of the Arab nation to destroy at any cost the so-called State of Israel". And so on. And so forth.

"We greet the unionist Moroccan King. Yes, the unionist King. Through him we challenge the presidents, leaders and commanders... They have wronged the masses by their false slogans." That same king earlier this year, hosted a conference of Jews of Moroccan origin attended by citizens of the state which Colonel Gaddafi is mobilizing the forces of the Arab nation to destroy, including even members of the ruling party of that state, the Likud. Colonel Gaddafi did not mention this. Nor did he mention the Sahrawi people, whose struggle against King Hassan's occupation of their territory he so long supported, and whom he has now left in the lurch.

Instead he spoke of his hopes for unity with "Algeria" with Tunisia, with Syria. And then he addressed, greetings to, the Libyan pilgrims who had gone to the "Holy Land" (the Hajj) for the annual pilgrimage. He asked

them "to celebrate the creation of the federation today and of the September 1 anniversary with reason, with responsibility and in close co-operation with the Saudi authorities". Why? Because we have received reports early this morning from King Hassan, King Fahd and from Syria to the effect that the revolutionary force and the popular masses of the people's confederates among the Libyan pilgrims have taken to the streets or want to take to the streets of Mecca and take control of the "Mosque". He appealed to them not to do such a thing at a time when "we want to rally the Arab nation together". After all it was possible that even Saudi Arabia, "also a kingdom", might join in with us. And so forth.

Yesterday, however, quoting diplomatic sources in Tripoli, the *Washington Post* reported that the plan for an armed takeover of the Holy Mosque – which could well have meant a repetition of the bloodbath of November 1979 and, at the height of the pilgrimage, have been an even more devastating blow to the prestige of the Saudi royal family – was almost certainly instigated by Colonel Gaddafi himself. The pilgrims were virtually an official Libyan delegation (in so far as anything in Libya is official) and included Libyan "diplomats". They could not conceivably have smuggled

Colonel Gaddafi is said (like some other dictators of recent history) to have considerable personal charm. He is good at confusing his enemies, his friends, and quite possibly himself. One of his present stratagems is to confuse the British public by releasing two out of six arbitrarily detained British subjects and seeking to bargain the remaining four against Libyan citizens who face very grave charges under due legal process in this country. But should the memory of WPC Fletcher be notified, at least, to keep our minds clear.

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Shall gannet cull get the bird?

From Mr P. J. Barlow

Sir, There are probably not many *Times* readers in Ness, so perhaps I may be allowed to say something about your report, "Call for ban on gannet cull" (September 3).

Gannets (yearling gannets) have been killed (not "culled") on Sula Sgeir by the men of Ness every September for food since time immemorial. A gannet might not be to the taste of the average citizen of the People's Republic of Islington, but to the people of Ness it is just as good as the thousands of tons of steak, chicken and fish fingers your readers consume annually, the result of the killing of animals which, for all I know, may be even more cuddly and lovable than the average gannet.

The shock to the Liberal Party of this defeat is enormous,

though after a similar defeat at the hands of Diefenbaker in 1958

it took the Liberals only five

years to regain power. Mr Turner has said that he will stay on as

leader, but the decision is not for

him alone. His personal achieve-

ment in winning a seat in Vancouver, though, may mean

that he will go in the medium

rather than the short term. His

is, after all, the only Liberal gain.

Before the polls closed, indeed

before they had opened, leading

Liberals were already calculating

their chances for the succession.

Mr Jean Chretien, deputy prime

minister, who ran second in the

leadership ballots in June, must

consider his chances to be rather

high.

Mr Mulroney has no such

troubles. He will take up the task

of prime minister as something

of an unknown quantity, and the

actions of his government will

be more specific than his cam-

paign utterances. But he starts

with a famous victory and has

proved himself as party leader. Canadians have the

change they wanted.

Yours etc.

P. J. BARLOW,

Annanidale,

Minard,

Inverary,

Argyll.

September 3.

Strategy of deterrence

From Professor Paul Wilkinson

Sir, The intellectual dishonesty and irresponsibility of the Labour Party's new defence report, which you so lucidly exposed in your leader of August 11, is reflected once more in Ms Mary Kaldor's letter (August 29).

No one should be fooled by her phrase "defensive deterrence": what Ms Kaldor and the Labour Party advocate is unilateral nuclear disarmament by the West. They simply ignore the Soviet regime's vast and continuing build-up of nuclear missiles pointed at Western cities.

The Kremlin has repeatedly made clear that they will never unilaterally disarm. Therefore, if the West was to follow the advice of Ms Kaldor and her comrades and adopt "non-nuclear" defence it would lay us wide open to Soviet nuclear attack and blackmail. Moreover, as you Sir, have cogently argued on many occasions, it would entirely remove any incentive to the Soviet Union to reduce its huge nuclear armoury.

Ms Kaldor concludes by professing concern about "oppression in Eastern Europe". Yet she has the effrontery to condemn the West for "aggressive and threatening nuclear postures". No wonder Moscow is so delighted with Labour's so-called "economic" or "beneficial" production in these circumstances to be defined as "value added in excess of labour costs".

There is some logic in continuing to extract coal and presumably most of the investment in an older pit has already been written off. May I suggest that "economic" or "beneficial" production in these circumstances be defined as "value added in excess of labour costs".

Value added is a simple and unambiguous measure, ie, the excess of revenue (the value of sales) over

revenue (the value of goods and services bought in). This surplus is the measure of value added, or net input.

So long as labour's take does not exceed the value added there is, in these circumstances, a case for continuing to extract coal, even though this will entail some element of subsidy.

Yours faithfully,

JAMES MORRELL,

James Morrell Associates,

Business Forecasters,

1 Paternoster Row,

St Paul's, EC4.

August 30.

The miners' dispute

From Mr W. G. Askew

Sir, If the NCB and the NUM cannot agree about the pits that should be developed or run down, why not refer the matter to a professional opinion? I mean the Institution of Mining Engineers and the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy, who certainly could be relied on to give an unbiased expert judgment, based on the experience of their members, as to what would be in accordance with the best mining engineering practice.

I do not think that their judgment would necessarily coincide with that of the NUM or the NCB.

Yours faithfully,

W. G. ASKEW,

3 Heath Hall,

High Street,

Baldock,

Hertfordshire.

September 4.

Strength of leadership

From Mr K. R. Hodgson

Sir, A statement by the Prime Minister of Singapore a few years ago is relevant to the present serious situation in this country:

Put simply, who will educate a younger generation of union leaders to recognise their strength and their limitations, namely that of the union leaders themselves? Political leadership, political leaders must triumph, if necessary by changing the ground rules to thwart the challenge, using legislative and administrative powers, and, when necessary, backed by the mandate of the electorate. If this

axiom is put to the test, severe damage will result; but given strong political leaders, the outcome cannot be in doubt.

Fortunately we have a strong political leader, but my anxiety is whether Mrs Thatcher will receive the necessary support from those around her, the media and the public to enable her to defeat what is now an open assault on the very fabric of our democracy.

K. R. HODGSON,

4 North Park,

Gerrards Cross,

Buckinghamshire.

August 31.

Child benefit

From Mrs Anna Knowles

Sir, I pay my taxes, which pay Mrs Gibbin's child benefit for having all the little Gibbins. Why does Mr Gibbin (September 3) claim that this hard-earned (by me and Mrs G) income? Income?

Yours faithfully,

ANNA KNOWLES,

33 Thorley Hill,

Bishop's Stortford,

Hertfordshire.

September 3.

Liberian protest

From the Chargé d'Affaires of the Republic of Liberia (a.i.)

Sir, I wish to request a correction to your editorial, "Facilis descensus Averno" (August 30). In that editorial you reported that "troops stormed the campus" of the University of Liberia, "shooting five dead and assaulting many more".

This report is totally false as there

were no deaths when the troops shot

into the air to disperse protesting

students.

Faithfully yours,

JAMES H. STEVENS,

Charge d'Affaires (a.i.),

Embassy of the Republic of Liberia,

21 Prince's Gate, SW1.

August 30.

Soviet sea power</h

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

No time for Bank of England heroics

With the pound touching new lows against the dollar, a miners' and dockers' strike and money market rates edging up, it is tempting to recall the traumas of July which precipitated a sharp rise in interest rates, and only partly reversed since.

In truth, the differences between now and July are more striking than the similarities however superficially attractive the comparison. In contrast to July, domestic markets are now reasonably relaxed about monetary policy. The August banking figures provided further confirmation that monetary growth is back on course and there is now a greater predisposition to accept the Government's argument about the front-end loading of public borrowing this financial year.

Another important difference from July is that the pound's weakness is now more obvious due to dollar strength. There is not the same air of crisis in the markets and the absence of worries about oil prices is one important reason for this.

That is not to say that the coal and dock disputes are irrelevant. Foreigners will be feeding on traditional conceptions about strife-torn Britain and will be keenly aware that there is little mileage in holding pounds at the moment. But yesterday at least, sterling held reasonably steady against Continental currencies and despite losing another cent to \$1.2815 against the dollar, closed only 0.1 off at 77.7 on its trade-weighted index.

The next move down in interest rates has been delayed and this has been reflected in the markets by the changing shape of the yield curve. With a few exceptions, the change in sentiment has been one of subsiding optimism rather than gathering gloom and the money markets have not swayed round to the view that the next move in interest rates will be upwards.

However, if the pressure from the United States intensifies or the labour troubles take a turn for the worse, undermining sterling in its own right, there is a danger that the markets might recall the events of July and remember that it resists the market at its peril. Arguably the Bank of England's behaviour in July led ultimately to a sharper rise in interest rates than would have been necessary if it had responded more readily to what the market was saying.

Maxwell dares as Marwan wins £9m

Mr Robert Maxwell simply cannot stay out of the news these days. If he is not trying – unsuccessfully so far – to give away £1m, he pops up with an attempt – unsuccessful, so far – to end the miners' strike. Yesterday, back on more familiar territory, he sent his brokers into the stock market to buy a line of 4.5m Fleet Holdings shares which had suddenly come on offer.

That takes Mr Maxwell's stake in Fleet, publisher of the *Daily Express* and *Sunday Express* and *Daily Star*, up to 15.54 per cent and clearly gives him a significant say in the future of that company. It is important to add that it does not amount to a "controlling interest" as defined by the Department of Trade and Industry. As far as the DTI is concerned, that starts at 25 per cent for the highly sensitive newspaper industry.

Profits fall at insurers

Guardian Royal Exchange and Sun Alliance revealed reduced profits for the half year to June 30 in figures still considerably better than the other composite insurers.

GRE's pretax profit fell £3.9m to £46.1m, against £50m over the same period last year. Underwriting losses increased by £8m to £44m from last year's £36m.

Sun Alliance almost doubled its general insurance loss to £63m, but investment income improved. Pre-tax profits fell from £33m last year to £22m this time. *Tempus*, page 16

RECKITT & COLMAN is to raise its interim payment 4.55p to 5.50p to even out the disparity between interim and final dividend. Sales for the six months to June 30 rose by 13 per cent to £545m. Pre-tax profits jumped by 22 per cent to £49.7m. Market share in many products continues to increase. *Tempus*, page 16

BICC, the cables and engineering group, has increased pretax profits for the half year to June 30 from £35m to £42.5m. Turnover increased to £986.5m from £919.1m. The group is paying a same-again 3.5p interim dividend. *Tempus*, page 16

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce)
am \$338.50 pm \$339.25
close \$338.00 - \$338.50 (2283.65)
New York (latest): \$339.25
Kingsgate (per coin):
\$348.50 - \$350.00 (2271.50 - 272.50)

Excludes VAT

Acrow jobs hope

By Our City Staff

Most of Acrow's trading subsidiaries are capable of being sold as going concerns, the group's receivers said yesterday.

A spokesman for the receivers said he was confident that all the businesses were saleable and he had high hopes of keeping job losses to a minimum.

Mr Michael Jordon and Mr John Naylor of Cork Gully, the insolvency specialists, were appointed joint receivers on Monday.

The spokesman said that they

The fall of Acrow, page 17

Pay talk deadlock leads to fears for economy

US car companies face strike

From Bailey Morris, Washington

An impasse in contract talks between the two largest US car manufacturers and their unions has raised the threat of a costly strike this month which would adversely affect other key sectors of the American economy.

Officials said the deadlock must be resolved before September 14 – when the current contract expires – to prevent a strike which both the Reagan Administration and financial markets hope to avoid.

The talks, the first in two years since the unions accepted big pay cuts to prevent more layoffs, at the then ailing companies, are critical for more than one reason.

Analysts said the outcome will not only set the tone for negotiations in other industries where workers have made concessions but also send an important signal to the inflation from Mr Paul Volcker, Chairman of the United States Central Bank, who has warned that a big wage increase could re-ignite inflation fears as other unions prepared for similar gains.

The issues involved in the

companies might accept one in the overall interest of trying to break what they regard as a spiral of expensive long-term contract settlements which are making their products non-competitive.

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Analysts said the outcome will not only set the tone for negotiations in other industries where workers have made concessions but also send an important signal to the inflation from Mr Paul Volcker, Chairman of the United States Central Bank, who has warned that a big wage increase could re-ignite inflation fears as other unions prepared for similar gains.

The issues involved in the

P&O chief gives a warning as interim profits double

By Graham Searjeant

Profits of P&O, the shipping, building and banking group, have almost doubled to £21m in the first six months of this year. However, Mr Jeffrey Sterling, who was brought in as chairman to revamp P&O at the time of last year's abortive bid from Trafalgar House, surprised the market by warning against recent stockbrokers' forecasts of a rise in full-year profits from £27m to as much as £30m and announcing that P&O had written £7m off the book value of its fleet as gas carriers.

Although the half-year dividend has been raised from 4p to 5p, the company warned that this may not imply a rise in dividends for the year as a whole.

On the Stock Exchange, P&O shares fell 7p on the day to 30p. Last year's share-for-share bid from Trafalgar House, which was not renewed following clearance by the Monopolies Commission would now value P&O at 33p per share.

The bulk of P&O's profits



Sir Nigel Brookes, chairman of Trafalgar House



Mr Jeffrey Sterling, brought in as chairman to revamp P&O

normally come in the second half and while the company remains hopeful, Mr Sterling said: "In the light of the uncertain effect of the recent and present industrial disputes, and taking account of the ports P&O uses, it would be prudent to sound a note of caution regarding some market expectations".

Some write-downs in the value of the gas fleet had been

moved to tidy the company, including the sale of the P&O building and an oil trading subsidiary, and a £7.5m provision for a share of losses on two bulk carriers which have been sub-chartered until they are returned to their owners in 1986. This week P&O sold 30 travel shops to American Express for £3m.

Altogether, profits on sales, write-downs, loss provisions and deferred tax adjustments add up to a £108m cut in reserves to £221m and a fall in the group's book value from £47.5m to £38.1m.

The measures have led, however, to an improvement in the group's liquidity, that will leave it enough cash to pay more than £100m for the new Sea Princess cruise ship.

Mr Sterling warns that write-offs will result in "material extraordinary items" in the year's accounts, but says the group's balance sheet is now "stronger than in living memory".

Gilt hit by slide

Government stocks fell yesterday, unsettled by the latest sterling slide against the US dollar. At one time there were falls of more than 2% but towards the close the market adopted a slightly firmer tone and the declines were, in some cases, reduced to 1%.

Trading, however, was not heavy with one dealer describing activity as "spasmodic".

Equities, after a poor start, closed on a firm note with the FT30 share index 1.6 points higher at 839.9 points.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE Index: 1082.6 down 1.1

(high 1082.9, low 1078.9)

FT Index: 839.1 up 1.6

FT All Share: 78.89 down 0.54

Bargains: 18.53%

Daiwa: 101.54 down 0.29

New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1,205.26 down 6.08

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 10,445.55 down 63.99

Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 946.87 down 0.15

Amsterdam: 165.1 down 0.3

Sydney: ASX Index 721.8 down 6.9

Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1,000.0 down 1.6

Berlin: General Index 157.50 down 0.36

Paris: CAC Index 173.2 unchanged

Zurich: SKA General Index 305.60 down 0.30

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling: \$1.2815 down 1 cent

Index 77.7 down 0.1

DM 3.7850 down 0.0075

Ff 11.6025 down 0.0075

Yen 313.30 down 1.7

Dollar: 1.383.5 up 0.9

DM 2.9550 up 0.0255

NEW YORK LATEST

Sterling: \$1.2825

Dollar DM 2.9485

INTERNATIONAL

ECU 0.591830

SDR 0.708762

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:

Bank base rates 10%

Finance houses base rate 11%

Discount market loans week fixed

10% - 10%

3 month interbank 11% - 11%

Euro-currency rates:

3 month dollar 121 1/2 - 11 1/2%

3 month DM 5 3/4 - 5 1/2%

3 month Fr 11 1/2 - 11 1/2%

US rates:

Bank prime rate 13.00%

Fed funds 11 1/2%

Treasury long bond 99 1/2 - 99 1/2%

ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period August 8 to September 4, 1984, inclusive: 10.806 per cent.

ITT to cut STC stake

By Jeremy Warner

ITT Corporation of the United States is to reduce substantially its big shareholding in Standard Telephones and Cables, the telecommunications group which is merging with ICL, Britain's leading computer manufacturer.

News of the decision came yesterday as Mr Norman Tebbit, the Trade and Industry Secretary, announced that he had decided against referring STC's £410m takeover bid for ICL to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

ITT had agreed to reduce its shareholding to 24 per cent of the company within seven months in what amounts to a complete reversal of its previously stated position.

ITT had said that it would restore its share stake in ICL to 25 per cent after the merger with ICL and only two weeks

ago it spent more than £15m protecting the company's shareholding by buying STC shares in the stock market.

Mr Kenneth Corfield, STC's chairman, said that after extensive discussions with ICL and other parties, "we concluded that a stake of 25 per cent or more by any shareholder would be perceived to bring material influence to bear upon the management of the company and such a perception could constrain the company's commercial freedom".

He said the ITT had agreed to reduce its shareholding "in the national interest and to help ensure a successful merger between STC and ICL".

STC's strong connexions with ITT had led Mr Peter Shore, the Shadow Trade and Industry Secretary, to demand a Monopolies and Mergers Com-

mission investigation into the ICL takeover plan on the grounds that an important sector of British industry would be surrendered to foreign control.

But STC claimed that the agreement with ITT had in no way been influenced by the threat of a Monopolies Commission reference. "The Government has cleared ITT's stake in the merged group," a spokesman said.

He said the ITT had agreed to reduce its shareholding "in the national interest and to help ensure a successful merger between STC and ICL".

These figures are worked out on a different basis from those shown by most societies and therefore look higher. On the old basis, calculating interest paid half-yearly, Abbey's rate was 8.75 per cent and has now

risen to 9.28 per cent. On the new effective annual rate compounding the half-yearly interest, the rate rises from 8.94 per cent to 9.5 per cent. The account holds about a third of Abbey's liabilities.

Abbey claims its new rate is the highest for a short-term account now on offer.

Abbey raises 7-day rate 0.5%

The Abbey National sharpened competition between building societies to attract investors when it raised its seven-day deposit account rate by half a percentage point to 9.5 per cent yesterday, writes Richard Thomson.

This makes it the second large society to raise its

investment rates recently. Leeds Permanent raised its to 9.25 per cent last week.

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Abbey claims its new rate is the highest for a short-term account now on offer.

Not the nine to five computer, or the bulging pocket computer, or the suitcase computer, or the

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Bid talk lifts Rowntree Mackintosh

By Derek Pain

Rountree Mackintosh, the sweets group, was back as the City's favourite takeover stock yesterday as it surged 16p to a new 328p high.

But Mr David Bowden, finance director, said: "We have not received any approach and we have not made any approaches. There has not been any unusual movement in our share register".

For more than three months rumours of a bid have swirled around Rowntree, favour for such products as Quality Street and Smarties.

The shares have come up from a 216p low this year, largely on the takeover speculation but with the help of a growing realization that the group's prospects are now brighter than they have been for a long while.

On Tuesday however, the shares fell back as many investors took the view that take over hopes had evaporated when the Swiss controlled Nestle's group - the City's favourite contender for Rowntree's hand - launched a £2.2 billion bid for the American Carnation Food group.

With such a takeover, one of the biggest ever, on its plate Nestle's would not have the time or resources to attempt to swallow Rowntree, now valued at more than £500m.

Yesterday buyers came in strongly for Rowntree shares, accompanied by rumours of a bid of at least £4 a share.

Few now believe that Nestle's will make such an attempt. Latest rumour pointed to a company unrelated to the confectionery industry - the Distillers Co Scotch whisky and gin group.

The DCL, as it is called in the City and the drinks trade, has made no secret of its desire to expand beyond its traditional drinks role. And the general view is that unless the Johnnie Walker to Gordon's gin group displays a more dynamic approach it will itself fall victim to a take over bid.

With the General Electric Co sitting on just under 3 per cent of the DCL capital there have been recurring rumours of a bid. Yesterday its shares slipped 2p to 293p.

After Tuesday's bloodbath equities were in a much more

resilient form yesterday. The FT 30 share index started with a 3.9 points fall. But it closed with a 1.6 points gain to 839.9 points. The FTSE 100 share index also improved as the day progressed but it could only reduce its fall to 1.1 points at 1,082.6 points.

The FT 30 share index was pulled back by the weakness of

Burmah Oil, that old takeover favourite, is expected to announce interim profits of £35.3m next week. About 80m seems likely for the full year. The shares were up 4p to 194p at one stage yesterday. They closed at 192p, just 8p off their year's high.

two of its constituents - P and O and BICC. Both announced disappointing results. P and O fell 7p to 308p and BICC lost 17p to equal its year's low at 208p.

Government stocks came in for a battering. The sad plight of sterling against the still strong US dollar - at one time almost down to 1.28 - left the market demoralized and there were falls of more than 1p at one time.

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Chubb, the security group fighting a bid from Racal Electronics, rose 5p to 266p. Its defence document is due out today. It is widely expected that the release of the group's defence will prompt at least one of the companies lurking on the sidelines to declare their hand and launch a counter bid for the group.

Oils were mixed but Lasmo recovered from the setback induced by the denial of a bid from Broken Hill Proprietary to gain 10p to 328p - thanks to its own Australian initiative.

The group, best known for its North Sea involvement, announced that it had accomplished a successful first appraisal well on its Cooper Basin (Queensland) discovery. It is now drilling nearby the appraisal well and if this should also come good then Lasmo could have a rich find on its hands.

Mr Chris Rowland, an analyst with de Zoete and Bevan, the broker, believes on conservative calculations that Lasmo's present Queensland strike could produce a yearly net income of £3m for the company. "Provisional indications suggest the reservoir can sustain this flow rate for more than 10 years and on this basis the prospect would be worth upwards of 25p a share to the group's asset value," he said.

Lasmo has a 26.25 per cent interest in the Cooper Basin discovery.

Drink shares remained subdivided with breweries still worried by the surprise fall in July beer consumption. Invergordon Distillers, the Scotch whisky group controlled by Hawker Siddeley, was unchanged at 143p after it had announced same-again 1.5p interim dividend and little changed pretax profits of £61.835m.

The company is striving to build up its Scots Grey brand in the United States. Progress, it says, has been slow "but this has been compensated by increases in the other activities of the company".

Insurance shares were little changed after the interims from Sun Alliance and Guardian Royal Exchange although Sun relinquished 13p to 373p after its announcement. Among FT index stocks BTR

shares refusal to allow profits from the two contracts to be taken into the results because the cash had not actually been received led to a revision of profits from £181.58m to just £167.600m. Assuming target margins are 10 per cent, this points to an annual outlay of perhaps £20m or more.

Fidelity gained 2p to 120p. The company has rejected the bid from Caparo Industries.

J. Bibby, the animal feed group which is in takeover talks with Barlow Rand, came in for a modest run with a 5p gain to 283p. Fleet Holdings rose 2p to 198p on the increased Pergamon Press shareholding.

Tuesday's equity turnover, 14,221 bargains, was valued at £19.877m. Gilt bargains were 2,648. Total number of shares traded at 118.3 million.

MONEY MARKETS

Interest rates opened on 11-10% per cent and had already come off to 10% 1/2 per cent before forecast of a money market shortage.

When the Bank of England virtually took the shortage out with early assistance to discount houses, the rate fell smartly.

Further declines took the market down to 5 per cent by the close.

Clearing Banks Base Rate 10%:

Discount Mkt Loans: Overnight High 10%; Low 4%:

Week Fixed: 10% - 10%:

Treasury Bills/Discs:

Bank Rate: 11% - 11%:

Overnight High 10%; Low 4%:

1 week Fixed: 10% - 10%:

1 month 10% - 10%:

3 months 10% - 10%:

6 months 10% - 10%:

1 year 10% - 10%:

Local Authority Bonds:

1 month 11% - 11%:

7 months 10% - 10%:

2 months 10% - 10%:

3 months 10% - 10%:

6 months 10% - 10%:

1 year 10% - 10%:

Secondary Mkt ECD Bonds:

1 month 10% - 10%:

3 months 10% - 10%:

6 months 10% - 10%:

1 year 10% - 10%:

Internal Market:

1 week 10% - 10%:

1 month 10% - 10%:

3 months 10% - 10%:

6 months 10% - 10%:

1 year 10% - 10%:

Fire Clay Products:

1 month 11% - 11%:

6 months 11% - 11%:

1 year 11% - 11%:

Finance House Rate 11%:

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING SPOT and FORWARD RATES

Market rates day's range	Spot rates close	1 month	3 months
New York	1.04800-1.04860	1.011-0.15c disc	0.96-0.30c disc
Montreal	1.01600-1.01770	1.015-0.15c disc	0.98-0.30c disc
Toronto	1.01600-1.01770	1.015-0.15c disc	0.98-0.30c disc
Brussels	78.95-78.96	78.12-78.26c	75.98-76.25c
Frankfurt	3.7700-3.7987	3.785-3.797c	3.745-3.795c
Munich	2.1420-2.1425	2.142-2.145c	2.095-2.125c
Paris	2.2564-2.2584	2.257-2.259c	2.21-2.24c
Tokyo	11.5720-11.5725	11.697-11.717c	11.54-11.65c
Vienna	2.61-2.62	2.62-2.63c	2.59-2.60c
Dublin	1.2280-1.2285	1.228-1.2295c	1.205-1.225c

Effective exchange rate compared with 1975 was down 0.1 at 77.7.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

(1) calls: 11-10% 10%, seven days: 11-10%	11-10% 1 month: 11-11% 11%, six months: 12-12% 12%
1 month	1.04800-1.04860
2 months	1.015-10.15c
3 months	1.015-10.15c
6 months	1.015-10.15c
1 year	1.015-10.15c
Forward: 10% Ord (1)	1.04800-1.04860
1 month	1.04800-1.04860
2 months	1.015-10.15c
3 months	1.015-10.15c
6 months	1.015-10.15c
1 year	1.015-10.15c
Forward: 5% Ord (1)	1.04800-1.04860
1 month	1.04800-1.04860
2 months	1.015-10.15c
3 months	1.015-10.15c
6 months	1.015-10.15c
1 year	1.015-10.15c
Forward: 10% Ord (2)	1.04800-1.04860
1 month	1.04800-1.04860
2 months	1.015-10.15c
3 months	1.015-10.15c
6 months	1.015-10.15c
1 year	1.015-10.15c
Forward: 10% Ord (3)	1.04800-1.04860
1 month	1.04800-1.04860
2 months	1.015-10.15c
3 months	1.015-10.15c
6 months	1.015-10.15c
1 year	1.015-10.15c
Forward: 10% Ord (4)	1.04800-1.04860
1 month	1.04800-1.04860
2 months	1.015-10.15c
3 months	1.015-10.15c
6 months	1.015-10.15c
1 year	1.015-10.15c
Forward: 10% Ord (5)	1.04800-1.04860
1 month	1.04800-1.04860
2 months	1.015-10.15c
3 months	1.015-10.15c
6 months	1.015-10.15c
1 year	1.015-10.15c
Forward: 10% Ord (6)	1.04800-1.04860
1 month	1.04800-1.04860
2 months	1.015-10.15c
3 months	1.015-10.15c
6 months	1.015-10.15c
1 year	1.015-10.15c
Forward: 10% Ord (7)	1.04800-1.04860
1 month	1.04800-1.04860
2 months	1.015-10.15c
3 months	1.015-10.15c
6 months	1.015-10.15c
1 year	1.015-10.15c
Forward: 10% Ord (8)	1.04800-1.04860
1 month	1.04800-1.04860
2 months	1.015-10.15c
3 months	1.015-10.15c
6 months	1.015-10.15c
1 year	1.015-10.15c
Forward: 10% Ord (9)	1.04800-1.04860
1 month	1.04800-1.04860
2 months	1.015-10.15c
3 months	1.015-10.15c

Pleasurama nine-month profit lifted to £14m

By Jonathan Clare

Pleasurama's first set of figures since the acquisition of Associated Leisure last March show a substantial but difficult-to-compare improvement.

The casino and leisure company yesterday turned in profits of £1.4m for the first nine months of the present year, which has been changed to an December year end, against £8.2m for the previous period.

Associated Leisure, the leading British amusement machine rental company, contributed £3.4m.

Pleasurama was prevented from bidding for Trident Television last December because of the number of casinos it would control in conjunction with Grand Metropolitan.

The Monopolies Commission decision was influenced by Grand Metropolitan's 29.9 per cent shareholding in Pleasurama. This stake reduced to 22.5 per cent after the acquisition of Associated Leisure was disposed of in June and the Department of Trade and Industry gave formal clearance for the bid to be renewed.

Pleasurama said yesterday that its provincial casino division, which grew strongly last year, made slightly lower profits.

Associated company profits from the 25 per cent stake in the K Club and the Canova Club, were down, mainly from heavier competition in London, from £2.3m to £2m. Profits from the amusement machine division were down but have improved. Analysts expect more than £2m for the year.

Aitken 'very likely' to join Espley

By Our City Staff

Mr Ronnie Aitken said yesterday that he thought it "very likely" that he would accept an invitation to rejoin the board of the troubled Espley Trust, the one-time property company he helped to float on the stock market three years ago.

But the expected formal announcement by Mr Ron Shuck, Espley's chairman, that Mr Aitken had been appointed a director did not materialise at yesterday's annual meeting.

Mr Shuck said in reply to a question that Mr Aitken was a friend of the company and had reacted favourably to suggestions that he should again become a director.

He added that property disposals worth up to £10m were under way and they would improve Espley's balance sheet. Espley's shares recently fell from 90p to 30p in two months as it became apparent that institutions worried about the Midlands property market got cold feet.

Jeremy Warner on the decision which spells engineer's doom

Banks send in the demolition squad as Acrow sees hope

Another famous name in the engineering industry is about to be consigned to the dustbin of corporate history. After two years of support, the banks have lost patience with Acrow, best known for Coles mobile cranes, scaffolding props and Bailey bridges, and told its directors they wanted their money back. That means receivership.

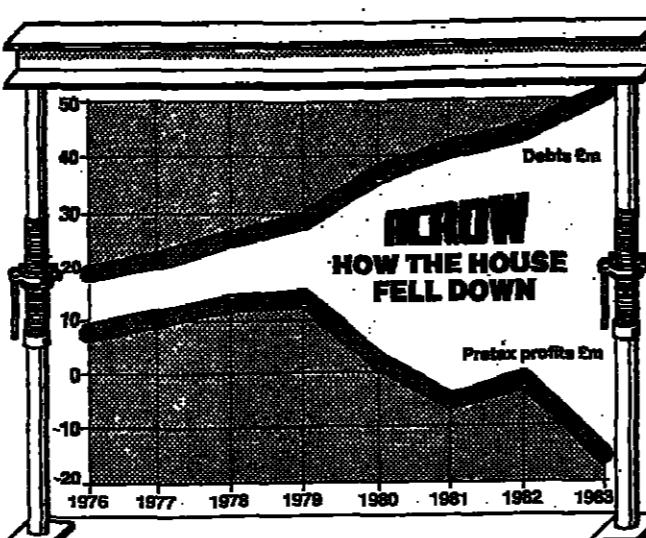
According to Mr Norman Cunningham, the Glaswegian-appointed at the end of 1981 with the task of master-minding Acrow's climb back from the abyss, running the company has been like climbing Everest without oxygen. He said: "I had reached the stage where I could see the summit, but then the banks moved base camp".

Perhaps surprisingly Acrow's fall is the first big business collapse since Stone Plant, the textile machinery to electronics group, went under in spring 1982.

The reasons the receivers are moving in are clear. Eighteen months ago the company's 16 British and overseas banks, which together were owed about £50m by Acrow, agreed a framework to provide continuity of finance for the group. Soon after Acrow reported that losses for the year to the end of March 1983 had soared to £14.7m. But that, the group confidently predicted, would mark the nadir of its fortunes.

A savage restructuring and rationalisation programme had already been put in train by Mr Cunningham and by last week his scalpel had cut about 2,500 jobs from the group's workforce. The patient now has a slim 3,333 tubes.

Acrow Tubes at Saffron Walden, Essex was closed and the plant sold to British Steel for £2.5m. The stake in Acrow Engineers of South Africa was sold for £2.1m. The Coles Cranes works at Glazebury Cheshire was closed and production transferred to the main plant at Sunderland, Tyne and Wear. Adamson and Hatchett, the Cheshire boilermaker, was closed at a cost in write-offs and redundancies of £8.5m. Adamson Chronister Valves in the United States and the group's share stake in Acrow Australia were put up for sale. Prestman Brothers, the group's Hull excavator manufacturer, more than halved its workforce to 338.



The result of this is that nearly all parts of Acrow are now trading profitably. But they are not making enough to cover the costs of servicing the group's mountain of debt.

I could see the summit but the banks moved base camp'

The crunch came at a meeting between Mr Cunningham and Barclays Bank officials on Monday. He told them that the group was unable to forecast a profit for this year. Coming on top of Acrow's failure to conclude negotiations to sell Adamson Chronister Valves in the United States, it was the final straw.

The bankers took the view that Acrow would never be able to trade its way out of its problems and that a capital reconstruction would be tantamount to pouting good money after bad.

For Mr Cunningham, it was the frustrating and bitter end to two-and-a-half years of hard graft. "There is more we should have done by way of rationalisation," he said. "Bentall Simplex (which makes grain dryers and storage silos) has been a big problem and probably should have been

closed. But the cost in write-offs would have been £5m and with our equity base so depleted already, the bankers would never have taken it."

But he is also realistic enough to know that the receivership means a better and safer future for some of the group's companies and workers. In particular Coles Cranes, which accounts for more than half the group's workforce, has been profitable for many months and appears to have a bright future, once unburdened of debt.

For Mr William de Vigier, Acrow's 73-year-old chairman, the receivership will be harder to accept, it forms a bitter end to one of the great entrepreneurial success stories of postwar British engineering.

He founded Acrow from a small lock-up under the Bow railway arches in East London in 1936. The name became

A bitter end to one of the great entrepreneurial success stories

synonymous with the adjustable building props that originally formed the heart of the company but derived, ironically from the solicitor who drew up its original paperwork: Mr A. Crow.

Record world grain crop hits prices

By Michael Prest

119 million tonnes more than last year's, the FAO said. A combination of early rain followed by prolonged sunshine has produced good harvests particularly for wheat, in many parts of the world.

The International Wheat Council, a separate body, said in a recent estimate that world wheat production this year was estimated at a record 1,756 million tonnes.

The bumper crop should be

would be 505 million tonnes, an increase of 9 million tonnes over 1983.

One result of this bumper harvest has been a steady decline in grain prices as the markets become aware of the volume of grain about to be available. The IWC's world indicator of wheat prices has fallen from \$163-a-tonne at the

end of June to nearer \$150-a-tonne.

On the London futures market run by the Grain and Feed Trade Association the price of wheat for November delivery has slipped from £110.9 a tonne two months ago to just over £106. Barley has similarly weakened from £110.1 a tonne to £108.

● MINERAL OILS AND RESOURCES: Final dividend 19cts SUS gross for the year to August 29 making 40cts gross. Payable on November 27.

1984 Interim Results

based on unaudited figures

	1984 first half £m	1983 first half £m	1983 year £m
Turnover	986.5	919.1	1901.6
Operating profit	49.1	40.6	94.9
Net interest payable	6.6	5.6	12.9
Profit before taxation	42.5	35.0	82.0
Taxation	19.5	14.4	36.3
Profit after taxation	23.0	20.6	45.7
Minority interests	5.2	5.6	11.8
Attributable profit before extraordinary items	17.8	15.0	33.9
Extraordinary items	0.5	(7.5)	(10.2)
Attributable profit	18.3	7.5	23.7
Earnings per share	9.3p	7.9p	17.8p
Dividends per share	3.5p	3.5p	10.54p

The interim dividend of 3.5p per share will be paid to ordinary shareholders registered in the books of the Company on 26 November 1984. Warrants will be posted on 31 December 1984 payable 2 January 1985.

The results for 1983 are based on the full accounts of BICC Group. Those accounts, on which the auditors gave an unqualified report, have been filed with the Registrar of Companies.

The interim results will be posted to share and loan stockholders on 6 September 1984. Further copies are available from the Secretary, BICC plc, P.O. Box No. 5, 21 Bloomsbury Street, London WC1B 3QN.

TDG in £6.8m cash call

Transport Development Group is placing 8 million shares to raise £6.8m to help finance the acquisition of a 74 per cent shareholding in Market Industries.

The total cost of the acquisition will be about £9m (£6.97m) made up from £5m for the 74 per cent stake and £4m for existing borrowings which will be refinanced.

But if can take the credit for building Acrow into one of Britain's biggest suppliers of scaffolding and props to the construction industry and a model of individual enterprise, he will also be blamed by some critics for some of the long-term causes of its decline and collapse.

TGD, which is involved in the haulage, storage, plant hire and construction industries, is enthusiastic about US prospects. The Federal deficit has expanded road building programmes, while the Californian haulage business turned in record profits in the first half. All US divisions are expected to make a profit for the second half.

His intransigence over many years on the question of the group's share structure arguably prevented the group from refinancing itself with new equity when it was capable of doing so in the late 1970s. As recently as the year to March 1978, the group was riding high with record profits of £14.5m.

But Mr de Vigier, against advice from the City, stubbornly stuck to the archaic share structure of voting and non-voting shares which allowed him to exercise absolute control. The misinformed would not support a rights issue in non-voting shares. Nor could they press effectively for change at an earlier stage.

It is also possible to blame Mr de Vigier for some of the industrial causes of Acrow's downfall. It is ironic that Coles Cranes is now the most successful part of the group because some see it as having caused many of the group's troubles.

It came as part of the Steel Group which Mr de Vigier acquired in 1972 for £24m. Acrow had, until then, been involved mainly in volume engineering products like props. Cranes required much more management, involving after-sales service, spare parts and a plethora of suppliers and technologies. In the year ended March 1983, Coles lost £10m.

Perhaps the harshest element for Acrow managers is that receivers should arrive now, as the economy is pulling out of recession and there appears to be some hope.

For the bankers, however, it is an easily explained paradox. If a group cannot make profits now, it will never, and it is much better to give its constituent parts a chance under a different structure of ownership.

● ESTATES PROPERTY INV CO: Final 5.5p making 8.25p (5p) for year to April 30. (Figures in £000). Gross rents 4,610 (4,126). Net rents 4,085 (3,651). After ground rents, Pre-tax profit 2,734 (2,477) after administration expenses 463 (460) and interest payable 937 (776) but including other income 47 (43) and interest received 2 (19). Tax 963 (896). Earnings per share 9.27p (8.32p). Shares 165 down 2.

● MINERAL OILS AND RESOURCES: Final dividend 19cts SUS gross for the year to August 29 making 40cts gross. Payable on November 27.

New cartridge-type computer planned

From Jan Mayman, Perth

Plans to produce what is claimed to be a world first in computer technology, promising cheaper, simpler and faster operation, as well as vast memory capacity, and even artificial intelligence, have been announced by Mr M. J. Brice, Western Australia's Deputy Premier and Minister for Technology.

His government plans to take a one-sixth equity in the Perth-based project called FormulaLab, Technology (Australia).

FormulaLab's computer system HI-Q is based on a new concept - an in-built, replaceable solid-state cartridge with a memory of 250 "Ks" or 250,000 "bytes" - around eight times that of conventional microcomputers.

Information can be directly written in, stored and recalled from the cartridges by computer users, thus eliminating the need for floppy discs, now widely used to store computerized information.

The cartridges, called "trics" are a combination of hardware and software so there is no need to reload different disc pro-

WALL STREET

New York (Agencies) - Prices opened lower in active trading with the Dow Jones average down 5.08 to 1,207.26 shortly afterwards. Declines led advances 589-237.

Several analysts have said they were confident the market

would rebound eventually, but most of them believed institutional investors would not budge until they saw signs of lower interest rates.

Federal funds traded at 11 1/4 per cent in the early going, the same as on Tuesday.

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had rebounded from a

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Nottinghamshire reach point of no return

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

HOVE: Sussex have scored 266 for four against Nottinghamshire.

If the county championship, sponsored by Britannic Assurance, seemed to be Nottinghamshire's for the taking when play started yesterday, it was far from that at the close. By putting Sussex in, Nottinghamshire forfeited an advantage rather than gaining one. Only one bonus point for bowling came their way, and it is not a pitch on which they will find batting easy. All of which is good news for Essex.

Rice is not the sort of man to make mistakes. When he chose to field it was in anticipation, I imagine, of favours for the faster bowlers, and these were not forthcoming. It is a dry, rather grassless pitch. As often as not, even Hadlee had a job to make the ball rise stumps high. He could swing it, but his line was not as good as it usually is, and when, in its opening spell, he pitched short, Mendis was quick to hook him.

However, the ball is already turning, albeit slowly. Hemmings and Bore bowled a good deal, but determined batting, especially by Parker, and the pace of the pitch prevented them from repeating their success of last week, when they bowled Northamptonshire out twice in a day.

Sussex are in a mood to give nothing away. To this day, it rambles with them that Nottinghamshire, when on the point of defeat, left the field for poor light against them at Trent Bridge in 1981. At the time the sides were neck and neck at the top of the championship, won in the end by Nottinghamshire, with Sussex runners-up. For all that, Sussex's own decision to come off for bad light yesterday, with 13 overs left and the runs starting to flow, seemed pusil-

lanous, quite apart from being tactically questionable.

All day a cold wind blew down the ground. The deck-chairs at the northern end were where to sit. Out of the sun, it was bitter. After Nottinghamshire's twelfth man had been kept busy in the first hour bringing out extra sweaters, Cooper, replacing Hadlee, took the one wicket of the morning when he got a ball to fly at Mendis.

French, who took the catch behind the wicket, was one of those being closely watched by Alec Bedser, with the tour of India in mind. Robinson, Broad's opening partner for Nottinghamshire, and Colin Wells were others. Perhaps Hemmings too.

There is no county like

Sussex for producing brothers who play in the same side. The Busses were the last. Before that were John and Jim Langridge, and Jim Parks and Harry Jim.

Yesterday, Colin Wells's brother Alan, made a robust 59. Both in their early and burly twenties, they are starting to make quite an impact.

Alan went to his thousand runs for the season for the first time, with some rousing strokes in front of the wicket, some made from down the pitch. Colin, who replaced him at 199, for three, had to be in a hurry. If Sussex were get a third batting point he would have to do it for them; but after a sort or two he was leg-before trying to hit Bore to leg.

On a slow pitch, it is not going to be an easy game for either side to win, even if Hadlee should do something outrageous. However, until they scuttled off at six o'clock Sussex could be well pleased with the way things had gone. This time last year Parker must have

despaired of his form; but that is all behind him now. It is a lovely, rewarding game again, his bat a part of him. India could, in fact be just his scene, with no fast bowling to unsettle him and a need for brilliant fielders.

Having held off Nottinghamshire's spinners, Parker produced a flurry of fast strokes when Hadlee and Saxeby took the new ball. Our most venerable selector will not have seen many better innings by an Englishman this summer than Parker's, or been more surprised when, rather than keeping Nottinghamshire on the run, Parker and his captain, after giving it some thought, accepted the umpire's offer to leave the field. Where there is a will, there is usually light enough, as we saw in the NatWest at Lord's last Saturday, and it was positively bright at Hove last night compared with that.

SUSSEX: First Innings

G D Mendis c French b Cooper 23
M G Green c & b Hogg 26
P W Parker not out 26
A P Wells c French b Hemmings 24
J R T Barlow not out 24
Extras (6, 7, 10, w, 1, n-b) 26

Total (4 wkt) 266

Score at 100 overs: 232 for 4.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-48, 2-96, 3-109, 4-212.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: B C Bore 100, 2-12, 3-12, 4-12, 5-12, 6-12, 7-12, 8-12, 9-12, 10-12, 11-12, 12-12, 13-12, 14-12, 15-12, 16-12, 17-12, 18-12, 19-12, 20-12, 21-12, 22-12, 23-12, 24-12, 25-12, 26-12, 27-12, 28-12, 29-12, 30-12, 31-12, 32-12, 33-12, 34-12, 35-12, 36-12, 37-12, 38-12, 39-12, 40-12, 41-12, 42-12, 43-12, 44-12, 45-12, 46-12, 47-12, 48-12, 49-12, 50-12, 51-12, 52-12, 53-12, 54-12, 55-12, 56-12, 57-12, 58-12, 59-12, 60-12, 61-12, 62-12, 63-12, 64-12, 65-12, 66-12, 67-12, 68-12, 69-12, 70-12, 71-12, 72-12, 73-12, 74-12, 75-12, 76-12, 77-12, 78-12, 79-12, 80-12, 81-12, 82-12, 83-12, 84-12, 85-12, 86-12, 87-12, 88-12, 89-12, 90-12, 91-12, 92-12, 93-12, 94-12, 95-12, 96-12, 97-12, 98-12, 99-12, 100-12, 101-12, 102-12, 103-12, 104-12, 105-12, 106-12, 107-12, 108-12, 109-12, 110-12, 111-12, 112-12, 113-12, 114-12, 115-12, 116-12, 117-12, 118-12, 119-12, 120-12, 121-12, 122-12, 123-12, 124-12, 125-12, 126-12, 127-12, 128-12, 129-12, 130-12, 131-12, 132-12, 133-12, 134-12, 135-12, 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GOLF

Ballesteros aims to become crowned head of Europe

By Mitchell Phillips

Severiano Ballesteros's desire to collect titles and awards was evident as he prepared for the European Open, sponsored by Panasonic, which begins at Sunningdale today.

He brushed aside the thought of £50,000 bonus this week, or offer from Birchtree, the promoters, after his success in the Open championship. But he was delighted to receive a special award courtesy of White Horse Whisky for his triumph at St Andrews - an Italian porcelain replica of the company's symbol.

The company offered to send the replica to Ballesteros's home in northern Spain, but he said: "I must take it with me. It is something I will treasure."

Moreover, Ballesteros stressed that winning the European Open is his priority, whatever the cash awards because of his search to collect all the "Open" titles in Europe.

So far Ballesteros has won Opens in Holland (1976, 1980), France (1977, 1982), Switzerland (1977, 1978), Germany (1978), Scandinavia (1978, 1981), Britain (1979, 1984), Spain (1981) and Ireland (1983).

Those missing are the European Opens, in which he has twice finished second, the Portuguese and the Italian. "My plan is to play in Portugal in November," he said. "And in the Italian Open next year. I will keep playing, even if it takes me 10 years, in order to complete the collection."

Yet there can be little doubt that the attraction of playing in Europe is growing stronger as the money increases with this tournament offering a prize

fund of £150,000 and a first prize of £30,000.

Nick Faldo, joint runner-up with Ballesteros and Can Mason twelve months ago when Isao Aoki, of Japan, won.

He insists: "This is only my sixth tournament in Europe this year. I have found it hard at times commuting back and forth across the Atlantic, because you cannot give yourself a long rest. With the money available over here now I might play more in Britain next year."

The superstars of golf are certainly benefiting from the manservants of the PGA European Tour and as the game expands so the rewards on and off the course are growing.

Sandy Lyle has won £74,800

on the tour this year but he signed an agreement yesterday to represent Ballantine's Scotch Whisky which is estimated to be worth more than £60,000 over the next two years. That, of course, dims in comparison with the earning power of Ballesteros who is estimated to be bringing in more than £1m each year.

In official terms, however, Bernhard Langer of West Germany has enjoyed the best year in Europe with winnings so far of £18,539. Langer, like Ballesteros, is chasing a collection of "Open" titles although this week they face increased opposition from Lanny Wadkins and Gary Player.

Wadkins and Player, the joint runners up in the United States PGA championship last month, combined as a "rest of the world" team to beat Europe's Ballesteros and Faldo by one hole in an exhibition match yesterday on the superbly prepared Sunningdale course

EQUESTRIANISM

Olympics revisited at Burghley trials

By Jenny MacArthur

Mark Todd, New Zealand's Olympic individual gold medal winner, heads one of the most illustrious international teams ever assembled for the four-day Burghley horse trials which start today in the grounds of Burghley House near Stamford in Lincolnshire.

Riders from 10 countries are competing in the event which is sponsored for the second year by Remy Martin and carries a £5,000 first prize.

Todd, who rides the 10-year-old Night Life, will renew rivalry with several Olympic medal winners including Bruce Davidson from the United States gold medal team and all four of the British silver medal winning team. Despite competing on the second day, the Olympic riders provide formidable foes.

Most threatening is last year's winner, Virginia Holgate, and who is now the Olympic individual bronze medallist. Miss Holgate rides the 11-year-old Night Cap, who was placed at Burghley in 1981 and 1982 and last month impressed with a good win at the Scottish horse trials championship.

Ian Stark, another member of the silver medal team, has an enviable second horse in Sir Wattie, who was dropped from the team for Los Angeles, after the final trial. Kilcullen is reported to be going every bit as well as last year, when the pair finished second. An equally deserving winner would have been Robert Lemieux with The Gamesmaster, the Olympic reserves who have performed consistently well throughout the year, but The Gamesmaster failed a veterinary inspection.

Lucinda Green, one of three riders seeking a third Burghley win pins her hopes on the nine-year-old Shaniagh, a gelding, who is a double-trumpeter and former Burghley winner, having been withdrawn because of lameness. Of the other two dual Burghley winners, Richard Walker rides Accumulator, an increasingly successful partnership as witnessed by their victory at Larkhall horse trials, and Lorna Clarke has two good rideins and the Olympic short-listed Danielle and Nyroxx, both from the team of Everdon horse trials last month.

A second win for Richard Meade - his first came exactly 20 years ago - would be a happy end to a

Todd: gold medallist

disappointing year for the triple Olympic gold medal winner who was dropped from the team for Los Angeles, after the final trial. Kilcullen is reported to be going every bit as well as last year, when the pair finished second. An equally deserving winner would have been Robert Lemieux with The Gamesmaster, the Olympic reserves who have performed consistently well throughout the year, but The Gamesmaster failed a veterinary inspection.

Burghley, with its fair and inviting course, traditionally beckons the stars of tomorrow as well as successes of today. This year is no exception, and with younger riders such as Lucy and Sophie (Pomery), Rachel Hunt (Alou), and Sweden's Anna Nilsson (Nono Star) knocking at the door, there is little room for complacency among the experts.

The course which they will tackle on Saturday, built by Philip Herben, contains six new fences and brings back into use several old ones, including the upper Trout Hatchery where many unsuspecting riders have met their Waterloo.

YACHTING

Gale conditions force crews to abandon series

From Barry Pickthall

The third inshore race in the world cup series off Newport had to be abandoned yesterday in the face of a force eight gale and wall of white water across the entrance to this Belgian port, which made it almost impossible for the competing yachts to sail out to sea.

With little sign last night of any moderation in the weather for today's compulsory long offshore race, many crews, including the British team on Odd Job, decided to pack up their boats and head for home.

Should these conditions persist, the committee announced last night that they would set an inshore course for today's 180-mile race, sending the fleet three times round a stretch between Calais and Ostend.

The international jury failed to uphold any of the protests lodged against these yachts that had allegedly missed rounding marks during the short offshore race earlier this week but have recommended to the race committee that a vessel follow the fleet throughout this weekend's race, to monitor all the marks rounding.

Ives and Home Solutions the pick

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Having finally brought an exhilarating losing run to an end by winning at Magic Eye at York yesterday, Tony Ives can take another step towards his first century of winners in a season by winning the Jorvik Selling Stakes there today on HOME SOLUTIONS (map).

After that good run by Dominique at Chester last week, Apple Orchard, with Pat Eddery aboard, will obviously be fancied to win a race of this nature by his incurably enthusiastic trainer, Pat Rohan. However, I prefer on Home Solutions who was bought in for £2,200 guineas after winning a similar race at Newmarket last month.

Before that run, Home Solutions had run at Newmarket, Head to Head, in the meeting. Soreigne Honey has proved first at Windsor, and then again at Hamilton, that the form is especially at this level.

Otherwise it should pay to follow Lester Piggott today on PRISMATIC (1.30) and CAPTAIN BECHER (4.15). Ridden by Willie Carson, Vanchance can be expected to go well in the Sancton Stakes especially after the way that he performed for Captain Bleasdale at Doncaster, but I prefer Priscilla Bleasdale at Newmarket. In the meantime, Soreigne Honey has proved first at Windsor, and then again at Hamilton, that the form is especially at this level.

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La crème de la crème

INSEAD

European Institute for
Business Administration
(60 kms South of Paris)

Seeks urgently:

Secretary/PA Experienced Secretary

Bi-lingual Essential (French/English, preferably English mother tongue). Tri-lingual preferred (German). Location on edge of FOREST-INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY ENVIRONMENT. Please send detailed CV, business references, photo, to Service du Personnel, Boulevard de Constance, 77305 FONTAINBLEAU, France.

BALLY SHOES BALLY SHOES

SECRETARY

To work for Group Financial Director and undertake secretarial/administrative support to other Head Office Departments.

Applicants, aged 20+, must have first-class audio-typing skills, excellent telephone manner and be happy to work as part of a small team. Shorthand is preferable by not essential. Also necessary is an interest in figures and the ability to maintain a flexible working attitude towards the variety of duties involved.

Our employment package offers a competitive starting salary, clothing allowance, free life insurance and contributory pension scheme.

Should you wish to discuss your move into the world of high grade footwear, please contact Margaret Caddy, Bally Group (UK) Limited on 01-631 4222, Ext. 225.

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SECRETARY

Sought by

International Company in St. James's To assist in looking after 5 Executives in small lively office. The applicant will be well spoken and presentable, have at least one years office experience, fast accurate typing, including audio and word processing abilities, and shorthand of 80/90 wpm. We are looking for someone who is enthusiastic, able to meet deadlines and, above all, possesses a sense of humour. Salary package £7,000 + free lunches. 4 weeks holiday. Telephone:

930 1811

(No agencies please)

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/PA

Required by Senior Partner of Court Circular Inland Firm of Consulting Engineers. Must have good personality, secretarial/administrative skills. Experience of audio/word processing/computer essential. Salary negotiable. Minimum four years experience in responsible job. Post offers varied work and considerable scope for personal initiative.

S B TIETZ & PARTNERS

10-14 Macklin Street,
London WC2B 5NF

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AN EXCITING CAREER

Managing one of the largest BMW New car sales operations.

SELLING: BMW

WE NEED: An already successful self-motivating Man/Woman with experience of a BMW or similar quality car franchise. Someone who is eager to join in our ambitious plans for the future.

WE OFFER: A salary and bonus package commensurate with this position. Use of a BMW car, a superb working environment and other benefits.

WE ARE: First Front Garages Ltd., 289-299 Kennington Lane, London SE1, 5QY. Tel: 01-582 6000.

INTERESTED?

WRITE TO: John Pearce,
General Sales Manager

SALES CONSULTANT

SERVICE INDUSTRY - MIDLANDS & NORTH

We seek an ambitious professional in late 20s/early 30s to further develop this prime-area. Joining a highly skilled team within a fast expanding group of companies, the prospects for career progression are exciting. If you are self-motivated, able to succeed, conclude negotiations at board level and need to earn at least £15,000 in your first year, we would like to meet you. Benefits include company car and private medical insurance.

Apply in writing with full CV to: The Personnel Officer, Midas Holdings Ltd., Stanley Hall, Rectory Lane, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY5 2AN.

MAJOR U.S. PUBLISHING COMPANY BI-LINGUAL SALES PERSON

A first class opportunity exists with a major American publishing company for a salesperson in their Electronic Publishing division. Candidates must be fluent in English and German language and have experience in selling news and information systems to industrial clients. An understanding of data transmission via package switching networks and computer systems essential. The selected person will be required to travel frequently throughout Germany and Scandinavia. Good salary and conditions. Please send CV to:

Box 0126 W, The Times

Secretary : Personnel c£8500

for a progressive International Group. The role will also include recruitment and personnel administration.

Age: 24-30, 100/60

Television

£7000

You'll be based in the MD's office and working in a variety of departments within this exciting Major TV Company. You'll need to be flexible and friendly and have good skills.

Age: 20-25, 100/60

HAZELL STATION

ASSOCIATES

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

8 Golden Square, London W1 01-439 6021

SECRETARY/PA FOR MD OF PROPERTY COMPANY

£8,000 negotiable

We are seeking an efficient personable Secretary/PA who is looking for a responsible position where they can become involved with the day-to-day running of a busy property company.

If you are aged over 24, have at least 60/100, are presentable and willing to get involved, send CVs to: Miss B Starkey, 18-20 Grafton Street, London, W1X 4DD.

BILINGUAL SECRETARY/PA

A newly established manufacturing and trading company in the West End require a Secretary/PA with a minimum of 2 years experience. Fluency in French an advantage. Good shorthand and accurate typing essential.

The position will suit an intelligent, friendly person who is keen to involve themselves to all aspects of a small but rapidly expanding company. Non-smoker preferred.

Salary £7,500 to £8,000 plus bonus.

Please write to Miss P. Waterson

Eurosugar UK Ltd.

50 Conduit St., London W1

West Hampstead Housing Co-op

requires an Administrative Assistant. Applicants should have office management, secretarial and book-keeping skills. Knowledge of the voluntary housing sector an advantage but not essential. Salary NALGO scale AP 4/5 (starting point 24). Further details from WHHC, 82 Kingsgate Road, London, NW6. 328 8956. Quote reference T. Closing date 21 September, 1984. WHHC is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

SECRETARY

To Managing Director

Hammersmith - Salary negotiable from £8,500

Kathy Prosser, part of the Expetel Group, is the country's foremost theatre ticket agent and also operates in travel, pop and sport reservations. Following internal promotion, an opening exists for a first rate Secretary/P.A. to the Managing Director to carry out all of the activities associated with a senior post.

You will be in your 20s and on the way to the top, and able to maintain tight administrative control of the MD's office.

Please send a detailed CV to: Harry Lister, Group Personnel Manager, Expetel Group Limited, Basuda House, Cambridge Grove, Hammersmith W6 0LE, as soon as possible.

PERSONAL SECRETARY (M/F)

Required for the City Office of a part of a well known firm working in a pleasant converted Georgian house in WC1. You will have a minimum of 2 years experience in secretarial work, ability to work accurately under pressure. Shorthand and WP experience desirable. Good telephone manner, a must! Salary inc c£7,000 p.a., generous holidays, ST1, sick pay, typewriter, Phone or Fax, 24 hours, Car, Pension, Christmas, Council Tax, 21 days annual leave, etc. Lamb's Conduit St, London WC1N 3NG. Tel: 01-524 6545

No Agencies

Personnel Administrator

£10,000

I have been asked by my client to find them an experienced, confident, Administrator, age 25-35, with previous experience in personnel, administration, secretarial, recruitment legislation.

You will have some training for your new role, highly regarded correspondence. For detailed description and interview in strict confidence contact: Mrs. Stevens on 01-529 7894.

INTERNSHIPS

ARCHITECTURAL SECRETARY

Required for Islington architects office close to Highgate SW10. Duties: Admin. Appointments with previous architectural experience. Salary negotiable.

David Parry Associates

198 Upper Street

London, N1

01-358 6131

SECRETARIAL ORGANISER

£8,000 Neg

To supervise small secretarial section, post room and general office. Previous experience useful, but not essential. The ideal candidate should have at least 10 years' office experience and should be a keen audio-typist.

Applications "Confidential" to: General Secretary, Institute of Medical Laboratory Sciences, 12 Queen Square, London, WC1N 3AT.

Tel: 01-580 5105

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Residential Negotiator

Residential department required for small but successful Co. Initiative, energy and self-motivation essential.

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40 Buckingham Gate, SW1

01-534 1557 (Ext. NSB)

American Oil Co

Mature Sec

£20,000+

This Mayfair-based Co. requires an experienced Sec/Sec for 3 Traders. Someone numerate who is looking for a non-pressured job in a gorgeous surrounding! Age 34-45.

Please enclose Curriculum Vitae

Telephone 01-522 1718

SALES AND MARKETING

FIRST CLASS SALES PERSON

Required for a well-established pharmaceutical firm with elegant offices overlooking gardens. We require a mature person of integrity and cheerful disposition.

Telephone 01-493 9271, ext 2322

WINE SHIPPERS

Neces. capable Secretary, good shorthand, working knowledge of wine, food, public relations. Free lunch and wine. Excellent salary. Please apply to:

FRASER LTD

133 Stephendale Road

London, SW6

731 3251

American Oil Co

Mature Sec

£20,000+

This Mayfair-based Co. requires an experienced Sec/Sec for 3 Traders. Someone numerate who is looking for a non-pressured job in a gorgeous surrounding! Age 34-45.

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BI-LINGUAL SALES PERSON

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The selected person will be required to travel frequently throughout Germany and Scandinavia. Good salary and conditions. Please send CV to:

Box 0126 W, The Times

Job No. 150

DESIGNER - MAYFAIR

£511-13,000

Immaculate presentation, confidence and cool organisational skills required. Good opportunities for fast promotion. As PA to MD. Other opportunities available. Age 27-32. Excellent benefits. Age 27-32. Excellent benefits.

EXECUTIVE SEARCH - MAYFAIR

£29,000.

A confident strong personality with a desire to work for a successful firm. Super office and excellent benefits. Age 25-30 yrs. Excellent opportunities.

US OIL - VICTORIA

£10,000.

A flexible well educated PA to work for a Senior American Executive. Good opportunities for fast promotion. Excellent compensation. Luxury office and excellent benefits. Age 25-30 yrs. Excellent opportunities.

Ring 588 3535

Crone Corkill

Recruitment Consultants

ALMOST NON-SECRETARIAL

c £10,500

If you have good secretarial skills but want to use them only occasionally, you may enjoy sitting across the desk from a partner in a successful Stock Broking firm near Marylebone. You will work very hard, sometimes for a lot of hours in the day (but has over 200 private clients to advise) but you should become totally involved in the business and make your contribution on the back up administrative side. You must be numerate, aged between 24-36 and want to join a friendly company with 100 staff.

Public Appointments

NCVO? National Council for Voluntary Organisations

Director London-Based

Nicholas Hinton is leaving after seven years' service and the National Council is therefore seeking a new Director.

NCVO is an independent charity, furthering the policies, interests and competence of the voluntary sector. Its Director heads a variously-specialist staff of 150, and is accountable for policy initiatives and their implementation. The job requires senior management experience and personal effectiveness in an unusually wide range of direct relationships which include the voluntary sector, government and industry and represents a rare opportunity to influence values and results in the field of social policy, practice and provision.

The person appointed will certainly have shown commitment to the voluntary sector, but may well have gained the requisite managerial, representational and negotiating experience through employment in other sectors.

It is likely that the successful candidate will be under 55. The salary range is £21,263 to £25,335, but is negotiable. Contributory pension scheme.

For full details please write to The Chairman (D), NCVO, 26 Bedford Square, London, WC1B 3HU.

Closing date for applications 5 October 1984.

NCVO is an equal opportunities employer.

City of Manchester Town Clerk's Department Legal and Parliamentary Section

Assistant Solicitor (Airport)

(£13,395/£14,709) Pay Award Pending.

Manchester International Airport, managed by a Joint Committee of Greater Manchester Council and Manchester City Council known as the Manchester International Airport Authority, is the third largest airport in the Country in terms of passengers carried and has been designated as a Category A Gateway International Airport. A programme of development and expansion at the Airport is currently being undertaken by the Airport Authority.

As holder of this new post you will be required to advise the Airport Authority upon the whole range of aviation matters and also upon the complex contractual and commercial aspects of the Airport's operation.

You should be an energetic Solicitor, preferably with two or three years' experience in commercial and contractual matters who is willing to join with a small team of professional Officers engaged in the management development and expansion of the Airport. Salary negotiable within the range according to qualifications and experience.

The City Council operates a Union Membership agreement under which a new employee is required to become a member of a recognised Union.

Applications, by letter, stating qualifications, present and all previous appointments, together with the names and addresses of two referees, should be sent to the Staff Officer, Town Clerk's Department, Town Hall, Manchester, M60 2LA, to be received not later than 21st September, 1984.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

SHELTER NATIONAL HOUSING AID TRUST FUND RAISING CO-ORDINATOR

We are seeking someone with exceptional drive and communication skills to work closely with the Director of the Trust, based in a central and local support office. The postholder will be responsible for travel, managerial duties and an ability to understand and motivate others is essential. Starting salary £9,767. For application form and job description contact:

Brian McQuillan, SNHAT,

157, Waterloo Road,

London SE1 8XF.

Tel: 01-813 9377.

Closing date 21st September.

SNHAT is an equal opportunities employer

NON-SECRETARIAL

MAYFAIR

Leading firm of Estate Agents require an organised person to act as Assistant/Negotiator in busy Furnished Letting Department. Enthusiasm and ability to deal with people essential. Also typing and driving licence required. Age 22+.

CHESTERTONS

47 South Audley Street,

London W1 3DG

Tel: 01-629 4513

No Agencies

DUFF B. TROTTER require enthusiastic and experienced part-time or full-time secretaries to assist him in his business. Duff B. Trotter Ltd., 20 Grosvenor Gardens, SW1. Tel: 01-589 0485.

PART TIME VACANCIES

PART TIME & DAYS. Charterhouse Co W1 needs an experienced secretary to assist him in his business. Managing his office in his absence, running his office in his absence, providing an efficient, cheerful hand and good 'get up and go' attitude. Good pay, permanent position and some appearance necessary. Flexible days. Starting salary £10,000. Tel: 01-589 4512. Crone Corkill Recruitment Consultants

AFTERNOONS ONLY. Knightsbridge estate agents need intelligent studio secretary part time or full time. Must be very good at telephone, able to type, more important than hand speed. Good organisation, good telephone manner, good appearance necessary. Flexible days. Starting salary £10,000. Tel: 01-589 0485.

PART TIME ASSIST. FOR WINTER. SW9. Tel: 01-730 3620. Long term for WINTER. £12,000 p.a. Box 6619R. THE TIMES.

ANTIQUE FURNITURE DEALER. Part time assistant. Tel: 01-589 0485. Mrs Mitchell on 439 8071. Knightsbridge

Perks Co.

Banking and Accountancy Appointments

NP&L ACCOUNTANCY

17 THE BROADWAY, EALING, LONDON W5

BRANCH CONTACT: RANDY FAIRER

Telephone No: 081 579 0000

CUAL ACMA ACCOUNTANT: exp. in a large diversified client, must have 2 years' exp. M7 area. £12,000 neg. p.a.

CHEF ACCOUNTANT ACCA OR ACCA: 4 to 5 years' exp. very large Co. Westbury

area. £12,000 p.a.

CREDIT CONTROLLER: exp. in logistics, setting up department. Heathrow area. £12,000 p.a. + car neg. p.a.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANAGER: 5 to 7 years' exp. Very large local Co. Comp. systems. £12,000 p.a.

QUAL ACCA ACCOUNTANT: exp. in the budgets of a very large Co. in Northolt

£12,000 p.a.

IVS VACANCIES IN THIRD WORLD DEVELOPMENT

BOTSWANA

Coordinator for Forestry Association; Technical Information Officer.

LESOTHO

Engineers for PR Lethabo Project; Metal Workshop Manager / Technicians; Printed Textiles Instructors.

SWAZILAND

Builder Instructor; Building Supervisor; Motor Mechanics Instructor; Agriculture/Horticulture Instructor for the Disabled; Coordinator for Poultry Project; Print Workshop Manager.

MOZAMBIQUE

(Minimum 2 years post qualification work experience). Agricultural Engineers; Forestry Engineers; Craftsmen e.g. Fitters, Turners, Mechanics etc. with formal teaching experience; Building Supervisors; Economic Planners; Architects; Accountants; Adult Educators; EFL & Science Teachers; Doctors; Nurse-Tutors; Medical Laboratory Technicians.

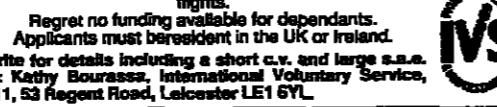
Also Infant and Primary Teachers; Remedial Teachers; EFL Teachers; PE Teacher and at secondary level Maths, Technical, English and English Teachers for the International School in Maputo.

2 year contract including modest living allowance and flights.

Regret no funding available for dependants.

Applicants must be resident in the UK or Ireland.

With or without a short course and large s.a.e. to: Mr. Alan Bowes, International Voluntary Services, T11, 53 Regent Road, Leicester LE1 6YL.



Finance Officer

NATIONAL CONSUMER COUNCIL

The NCC is funded by the Department of Trade & Industry to watch over the interests of consumers and to represent them to government, nationalised industry and public and private sector industry and commerce.

The Finance Officer will be responsible to the Head of Administration for the financial administration of the grant-in-aid to the NCC and the three country councils. With the help of an Accounts Clerk, he/she will be responsible for all day-to-day accounting procedures, payment of salaries, preparation of estimates and other budgetary information required by Management.

In addition to good basic educational qualifications the successful applicant must have some formal training in accountancy and/or relevant work experience. An appreciation of government funding and departmental procedures would be a great advantage.

Starting salary £7,592 rising to £9,338 including London Weighting of £1,250 - subject to backdated increase with effect from 1 April 1984. Terms and conditions of employment are comparable with the civil service.

Please write for job description and application form from Shares Handout, Secretary to Administration Group, NCC, 18 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1. Completed forms must be received at NCC by Monday 17 September.

Sussex Rural Community Council

DIRECTOR

Applications are invited by 1st October 1984 for the post of Director of the Sussex Rural Community Council, which provides a focus for voluntary organisations concerned with the protection and enhancement of rural communities in East and West Sussex.

The Director is expected to be able to work with voluntary and statutory bodies at all local and, when appropriate, national levels. An ability to inspire self-help among rural communities is an essential requirement. Knowledge of the Sussex area will also be valuable.

Salary scale: £8,722-£11,454 per annum. Non-contributory pension scheme. Appointment to date from 1st April 1984.

Further details from the Chairman, Sussex Rural Community Council, Sussex House, 212 High Street, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 2NH. (Envelope should be marked Ref DPA/84 on top left-hand corner).

Tempting Times

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Use the new technology and tempt at the level you deserve. At £5.50 p.h. (the equivalent of £10,000 p.a.) you can join our team of Director level Secretaries who have good computer skills, are experienced in word processing, and work with a W.P. (preferably Wang, IBM 5200 or Display Writer, Master) and experience of working in Central London.

The Director is expected to be able to work with voluntary and statutory bodies at all local and, when appropriate, national levels. An ability to inspire self-help among rural communities is an essential requirement. Knowledge of the Sussex area will also be valuable.

Salary scale: £8,722-£11,454 per annum. Non-contributory pension scheme. Appointment to date from 1st April 1984.

Further details from the Chairman, Sussex Rural Community Council, Sussex House, 212 High Street, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 2NH. (Envelope should be marked Ref DPA/84 on top left-hand corner).

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WORD PLUS Welcomes You

Open the door to interesting, rewarding temporary assignments using your word processor skills. We have vacancies NOW come in for the Cream!

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Word Plus
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Curiosity paid the Cat!

In cream because (she registered with us) she is the cream! She is the cream! She is the cream!

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Secretaries Plus
The Secretarial Consultants

TOP RATES FOR TOP TEMPS

W.P. Operators up to £5.50 ph

We have bookings for SH/Sec. and/or W.P. Operators (Wang, IBM, Display Writer). Starting Immediately.

Ring Sally Owens on 235 8427

4 Pont Street, SW1

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES

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ACT NOW!

£4.50 ph.

Join our fast-moving senior level temporary team. If you have speeds of 100/60 and 2 years' Director level secretarial experience in Central London. Call us now as we need your expertise.

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Crone Corkill

Recruitment Consultants

SH SECRETARY WITH VACANT POSITIONS

From £7,500 upwards. Many clients, many areas.

01-434 3676 immediately. Specialist Recruitment Consultants

439 8071. Knightsbridge

Perks Co.

TEMPORARIES URGENT!!

We are seeking more secretaries (Sh/Sec/CT & memory electronic typewriter users) to join our super temporary team. so ring us now & see what we have to offer.

222 6064

Sue Girling

Norma Skemp

Personnel Services Ltd

14 Broadway, SW1

01-589 0485

Part Time Vacancies

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General Appointments

Television Programme Sales Manager

Deputy Head of Department

Channel 4 is respected internationally for innovative, creative, quality programming. We commission some of the industry's finest production and acting talent to create programmes not only for our broadcasting service but also for sale worldwide.

Our Business Development Department is responsible for selling our programmes and these are becoming an increasingly valuable source of revenue for the Channel.

Responsibilities are considerable and wide-ranging and include forming the link between our programme makers and distribution agents, liaising with commissioning editors, identifying and advising on the market potential of programmes early in negotiations, implementing and operating a computerised sales record system, preparing financial and management reports, ensuring that contracts are adhered to, and organising publicity and technical support.

You must be a shrewd, energetic business person with a sound appreciation of the international market value of programmes gained in a broadcasting organisation. The substantial remuneration package will be a genuine reflection of your professional stature.

Please write in confidence enclosing a detailed CV to the Personnel Department, Channel 4 Television, 60 Charlotte Street, London W1P 2AX quoting ref LC4.



Channel 4 is an equal opportunities employer.

Marketing Executive

London

c. £17,000

Applications are invited for the new position of Marketing Executive in the Ash Marketing Branch of the C.E.G.B. Headquarters. The Branch is concerned with the marketing and sales of Pulverised Fuel Ash (PFA) into the construction market and to the manufacturers and producers of building materials and products.

The successful candidate will report to the Commercial Officer - Ash Marketing and be responsible for the establishment of detailed strategic marketing plans and tactical annual sales operating plans. Additionally, the post-holder will establish detailed advertising, public relations and sales promotion plans, particularly briefing and controlling the advertising agency and other specialist suppliers. The Marketing Executive will undertake marketing research and will ensure provision of marketing services and support for sales operations.

Candidates should have substantial experience in a planning and co-ordinating role in a competitive marketing environment. The ability to establish and maintain an effective marketing function in a technical activity is essential. The ability to communicate effectively, both in the written and spoken word is an essential requirement of this post. A good financial knowledge, with an eye for detail is required, together with a degree or similar qualification in marketing or business studies.

Please telephone 01-634 6970/6905 for an application form. The closing date for receipt of application forms is September 17, 1984. Quote Ref. 180/84/MG/T. The C.E.G.B. is an equal opportunity employer.

CENTRAL ELECTRICITY GENERATING BOARD HEADQUARTERS



International Appointments

ACCOUNT MANAGER HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS AUSTRALIA

The health care industry in Australia is undergoing rapid change and development and is using sophisticated information processing technology to facilitate this change.

In response to this environment, we are expanding our Health Care Services Group market a full range of application systems to the health care industry with a strong emphasis on products developed in Australia. The company has made a major commitment to develop effective and total solutions to this industry through systems development and the recruitment of industry experienced personnel.

Burroughs Australia is seeking people with significant experience in health care systems to join a dedicated team in a marketing position. The successful applicant will understand the issues confronting the health industry today and the role and benefits of information systems management.

The successful applicant will have a proven record of success in total solution selling to the health care industry. An emphasis on application software would be an advantage.

Burroughs Corporation is committed to the on going development and support of health care systems. Burroughs Australia is a reflection of that commitment and based on success we are seeking to grow our specialist health care marketing and sales team.

We can offer you a career which in every sense is a growth environment. A career with the fastest growing major supplier in Australia and New Zealand with the potential on a world-wide basis.

A highly competitive remuneration and benefit package will be offered.

For further details please contact:

Mr Paul Menken,
Manager, Personnel Services - Marketing,
BURROUGHS AUSTRALIA,
30 Alfred Street,
Milsons Point, NSW, 2061
AUSTRALIA

Burroughs

COUNCIL OF EUROPE Strasbourg, France

Translators into English

— Mother tongue, with thorough knowledge of French and knowledge of either European languages preferably German, Italian or Spanish.
— Good level of written, conversational and administrative translation abilities and/or relevant professional experience in one field.
— Age under 35 for posts where further consideration will be given to short temporary contracts.
— Salary £13,400 per annum (£14,640 F.T. for certain posts) dependent on qualifications and experience. Details of allowances as appropriate for overseas posts.

Further details and application form available from: Head of Establishment Division, COUNCIL OF EUROPE, BP 431 R6, 67006 STRASBOURG CEDEX France.

South East Thames Regional Health Authority

Regional General Manager

Applications are invited by the South East Thames Regional Health Authority for the post of Regional General Manager. The Region is responsible, via 15 District Health Authorities, for providing health care for 3.6 million people living in South East London, Kent and East Sussex. It has a revenue allocation of £750 million and employs some 80,000 staff.

Potential applicants should be able to demonstrate qualities of leadership and a successful record of improved performance and of managing large scale change. Experience in handling a very large budget will also be an advantage. As the Chief Officer of the Regional Health Authority, the General Manager will have responsibility for providing appropriate information and advice to the Regional Health Authority, implementing the Regional Health Authority's decisions and for motivating and developing staff.

The salary will be negotiable subject to the successful candidate's qualifications and experience and will be related to the remuneration of Senior N.H.S. Officers.

The appointment will be on a fixed term three year contract, renewable thereafter every two years.

Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed during the last week of September.

Applications including a full statement of career to date and a telephone number through which contact may be made should be sent to Ms. Angela Moon, Chairman's Office, South East Thames Regional Health Authority, Thrift House, Collington Avenue, Bedfellow-on-Sea, East Sussex TN9 3NQ. Telephone (0424) 222555 Ext 3381, no later than 17th September 1984.

THAMES VALLEY POLICE

Assistant Press and Public Relations Officer

£9,060 - £9,660 pa.
(Pay award Pending).

This is a demanding and challenging post in the Press and Public Relations Section of a large police force. Duties will entail a wide range of public relations activities including liaison with all elements of the news media and the preparation of material for the force newspaper.

The successful applicant should have accredited experience as a journalist. Possession of NCTJ proficiency certificate and/or membership of the Institute of Public Relations would be advantageous.

37 hour week, 24 days holiday, contributory pension scheme, staff canteen. Relocation expenses are payable in approved cases of living outside the Thames Valley area.

For an application form and job description please write to:

The Principal Personnel Officer
Thames Valley Police Headquarters
Kidlington Oxford OX5 2NX or
Telephone Kidlington 08675 4343
Ext 267 during
Office Hours

Closing Date 28th September 1984.

CHIEF ENGINEER

Nigeria

Professionally qualified electrical engineer with mechanical aptitude/experience for an oil seed processing mill situated at Kano, Northern Nigeria. Experience in diesel generators, pressure vessels, steam boilers, electrical maintenance, and capability to restore and repair Simon Rose-downs Expellers would be helpful. The plant includes a small refinery with centrifuges. Preference will be given to practical engineers with experience in West Africa.

An associate of a UK group, the company offers attractive conditions of service.

Applications should be addressed to the Personnel Officer, 32 St Mary at Hill, London EC3 P3AJ, marked "CHIEF ENGINEER". Interviews will take place during week commencing 17th September 1984.

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

SUSSEX

£6,500 + BONUS + CAR

TDK Tape Distributor (UK) Ltd are clear brand leaders in audio cassettes and well-established in video cassettes and other products.

To maintain our plans for improving our market position still further we require an Area Sales Representative to be responsible for developing both the independent and National Account sectors of the market in the Sussex and East Hampshire area.

You will have a successful record of selling and merchandising TDK products throughout the area currently living in the area. Ideal age range is around 25-35.

A progressive salary is offered starting at £6,500 plus bonus and company car, and attractive conditions of employment including Pension and BUPA after a qualifying period.

If you have the experience and skills to join our dynamic and successful sales team, send me your full CV including salary and personal details, or telephone for an application form.

Les Tibbetts
Personnel Manager
TDK Tape Distributor
(UK) Ltd
Pembroke House
Chestnut Close
Chestnut Close SW4
Tel 01-630 9623

The great name in tape cassettes.

CAREERMAP, Ltd. recommends using your own CV for a more effective CV. Please contact CAREERMAP, Ltd., 250 Speke Road, Liverpool L17 4PS. Tel: 01-833 2378 for further information.

GRADUATES required for various categories throughout the U.K. and abroad. Write to: The Vice-Chancellor, The Queen's University of Belfast, Belfast, Northern Ireland, BT7 1NN.

TOP SECRET Administrative Assistant, Royal Holloway College, Egham, Surrey TW20 5EJ. Tel: 01-895 2000.

GERMAN/FRENCH Translator, Cambridge, £9,500. Language Staff Agency, 466 8922.

ENGLISH TEACHER/nurse required for GERMANY. Tel: 01-833 2378.

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING RESEARCH COUNCIL Royal Observatory, Edinburgh.

ASTRONOMER There is a vacancy for a Senior Astronomer (Salary Scale £15,000 - £20,000) to take responsibility for the Technology Unit at Edinburgh. Applicants should have practical experience of the management of projects with considerable technological content and a record of astronomical research of international quality. Further details (and application form) are available from: The Personnel Officer, Royal Observatory, Blackford Hill, Edinburgh EH9 3JL.

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ENGLISH TEACHER/n

HORIZONS

The Times guide to career development

Hard bargaining for architects

When the Royal Institute of British Architects elected to relax their code of professional conduct in 1979 they set a trend which has now spread to several other professions. Until recently architects were not allowed to advertise, a prohibition which included soliciting work by sending brochures or speculative letters to potential clients.

They were also disbarred from various other types of commercial enterprise; in particular they were not permitted to form limited companies or to act as developers in their own right, in fact like many other legalistic changes the relaxation in the code only recognized a situation which had already been eroded.

"The architect must not solicit," wrote Eric Lyons, a former RIBA president, "but he can loiter with intent at the nineteenth hole." It was to prevent these rather undignified practices that the members changed a mandatory code to one which simply set gentlemanly standards of good behaviour in the way business was done. For instance, supplanting a formal contract on a job is still forbidden.

A question of negotiation

The code relaxation has occurred more or less in conjunction with another change in professional practice which has to do with the way government – and indeed consumers – are challenging some of the more cartel-like aspects of the professions. This was the abolition of mandatory fee scales, a step which most architects regard as much more significant than the freedom to market their work – though it certainly gives it added relevance.

Instead of getting a fixed minimum percentage of the contract value of the building, architects now have to negotiate fees with the client. Though clients have been quick to point out that under the old system the more costs escalated – sometimes because of mistakes made by the architect – the more architects made, the abolition of mandatory fees has been traumatic for the profession. It can be compared to the impact on solicitors of the proposed abolition of the conveyancing monopoly.

The situation is made worse because of the sharp decline in public sector work. Once the backbone of the fee income of a great many practices, it has shrunk to less than 40 per cent and architects are now exposed to some very tough bargaining by developers and others who are only too well aware that they are operating in a buyer's market.

Godfrey Golzen on what the changes in fees can mean

course offered in mid-career because it is only then that the relevance of much that has to be learned can be appreciated.

The Government is also encouraging this concept but they are not putting any money into it. "There's the rub," says Gibbs-Kennett. "Continuing Professional Development is expensive in terms of time and money to the practising architect, and it's not mandatory. Only 12 per cent – 15 per cent of the profession participate."

He sees some hope, however, in the fact that the new technology is itself making learning more flexible. Instead of architects coming to courses it may soon become economically possible to bring courses to architects through tapes and videos. "What I'd really like to see is an open university of Continuing Professional Development."

Contractors put in a low bid and then come up afterwards with a whole slew of claims which they blame on the architect. With the architect in mind the bid should also be the final cost.

The other answer to the dilemma of diminishing fees is for architects to act as developers. Some of them are now embarking down that road, but the bulk of the profession are sceptical. They feel that to take commercial responsibility for finding funds and tenants requires a skill for which they are not suited by temperament nor training, though in the legislatively simpler world of the nineteenth century architects like Nash acted as developers as well.

Training is a big problem for architects who are trying to adapt to these various changes in professional practice. "The implications of that is only one of the things that architects need to keep track of," says Peter Gibbs-Kennett, the RIBA's director of Education and Professional Development. "Apart from building technology itself, there's the whole business of computers. There are changes in legislation and there are now forms of building contract emerging like the new one produced by the Association of Consultant Architects which some people think is ideally suited to new management methods.

"The schools don't have time to teach more than the use of the JCT contract, which is the one that is most widely accepted.

The trouble is that the full-length course of architecture in the 37 schools already lasts seven years. Rather than spin it out further, the RIBA, like other professional bodies is trying to institute a programme of Continuing Professional Development: seminars, lectures and short

courses.

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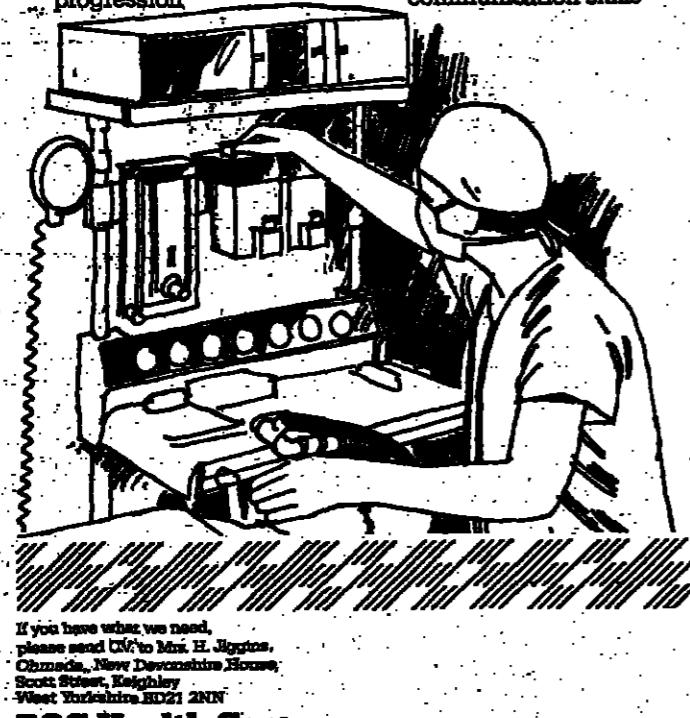
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If you have what we need, please send CV to Mr. H. Rogers, Ohmeda, New Dawnhouse House, Scott Street, Knightley, West Yorkshire BD21 2NT.

BOC Health Care

THE ROYAL INSTITUTION OF CHARTERED SURVEYORS**APPOINTMENT OF****SCOTTISH BRANCH SECRETARY**

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors is the leading professional body in its field in the United Kingdom. It plays an active part in public affairs and in the advancement of the surveying profession worldwide. Its interests cover the planning, development and management of land and property, both urban and rural, construction cost, economics, building technology and surveying and mapping (including mineral and hydrographic surveying).

The Scottish Council, which is the governing body of the Scottish Branch of the RICS, conducts the affairs of the Institution in Scotland. The Scottish Branch Secretary, who is a permanent member of the Institution's headquarters staff, is responsible for advising and assisting the Scottish Council. He is supported by 10 other staff, all of whom are located at the headquarters office at 7-9 Manor Place, Edinburgh.

The post of Scottish Branch Secretary will fall vacant in May 1985 and applications are invited from persons having appropriate academic or professional qualifications (in surveying, law or other relevant discipline) and senior level administrative experience.

PREFERRED AGE 40-50 years.

(retirement at 60)

SALARY RANGE £12,600 - £16,000 pa.

Further information on the post and terms of application may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, RICS, 12 Great George Street, Parliament Square, London SW1P 3AD.

Closing date 30 September 1984.

General Appointments

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OUTSTANDING OPPORTUNITY

Ambitious Assistant for Managing Director of an expanding outside catering company based in London. Send CV and details of salary required to:

Box 2002 W,
The Times

MANAGER/ESS

A post has arisen in the managerial section of a multi-national company in London. The applicant is required to have experience in hotel management and have a good knowledge of Arabic and French. Please apply:

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London EC1Y 1AA

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Position in Kentish Town with an established computer system and own major computer system, we are major leaders.

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ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT

Required by YWCA of Great Britain. Applicants must have minimum 3 years experience of producing management accounts from manual & computer records showing understanding of wages & salaries rates & bought ledger & VAT also required.

Apply by writing enclosing full CV & names of 2 referees to:

Deputy Personnel Officer YWCA of Great Britain, 2, Weymouth St, London W1N 4AX.

THE ZIMBABWE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMMISSION

Wishes to recruit the following qualified personnel

Mechanical Foreman

Responsible for supervising maintenance artisans in carrying out mechanical plant as and when directed by the Maintenance Supervisor. Applicants must have a recognised apprenticeship with 8 to 10 years' experience in maintenance and overhaul of boiler and turbine plants with advanced steam conditions.

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Responsible for maintenance of all power station mechanical equipment including auxiliary equipment.

Applicants must have a recognised apprenticeship with 5 years' experience in a power station or heavy industry. Appointments will be made on 3 year contracts and salary will be determined by experience. Return air fare will be offered.

Please apply to:

The Senior Recruitment and Education Officer, Zimbabwe Attaché, Zimbabwe High Commission, 429 Strand, London, WC2R 0SA.

EUROLINK

Join an exciting and dynamic young company which is expanding nationally and internationally in the computer services market. We currently have several offices in the UK, one branch in Europe and further offices to follow in Europe. With an annual turnover in excess of £2m, Eurolink is an excellent company to join. We are looking for a non-secretarial.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT

to the Managing Director

With responsibility for:

1. Support of the MD's personal clients
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3. Liaison with all levels of staff.

If you have what we need, please send CV to Mr. H. Rogers, Ohmeda, New Dawnhouse House, Scott Street, Knightley, West Yorkshire BD21 2NT.

BOC Health Care

Eurolink Computer Services Limited

Equity & Law House, 102 Queens Rd, Brighton BN1 3YF. Tel: 0273 202316

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Leading supplier of Vending Equipment seeks experienced Chartered or Certified Accountants.

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Opportunity for advancement within a successful and progressive Company.

Hand-written application and CV to Administration Director, Polywood Ltd, Station Lane, Witney, Oxon OX8 5RL.

ELIZABETH DAVID LTD require Seven Accountants for their Head Office in London. All positions are permanent, full-time, with good salary & benefits. Applications for immediate interview should be sent to Mrs. G. M. D. Smith, Elizabeth David Ltd, 100 New Bond Street, London W1Y 8AB. Tel: 01-588 6212.

ASSISTANT TO ACQUISITIONS SECTOR - £12-15,000

Our clients a leading City Merchant Bank, seek a graduate to act as assistant to the Acquisitions Sector.

The candidate should have some post qualification experience, either as an Investment Analyst in stockbroking or possibly with a large pension fund or insurance company.

Must have ability to read financial reports.

Duties to include client liaison, preparation of industry/sector search reports and selling memoranda, helping to evaluate business propositions. Age between 23-27.

Please reply to Julian Dent, Beresford Associates Ltd, 91-93 Charterhouse Street, London EC1M 6HR.

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

35 New Broad Street, London EC2M 1NH
Tel: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576
Telex No. 887374 Fax No. 01-638 9216

This appointment provides an opportunity to broaden experience in the P.R. and administration function.

NATIONAL DIRECTOR

NOT LESS THAN £20,000

EDUCATION INFORMATION SERVICE

We invite applications from candidates, aged 30-40, who will have acquired a background of at least 5 years in either journalism, P.R., or the media generally – or in a closely related area of the communications industry. Responsibilities are widely drawn and will cover, through an efficient team of 15, planning, promotion and administration. The successful applicant will promote independent education through meetings (addressing a wide variety of groups, parents, etc.), educational conferences, production of a Newsletter, fund generation and sponsorship. The capacity for original and innovative thought, plus the ability to communicate lucidly and a commercial mind are important to the success of this appointment. Some away travel in the U.K. will be necessary. An attractive salary is negotiable + car, non-contributory pension and assistance with removal expenses if necessary. Applications in strict confidence under reference PRD14287/TT to the Managing Director.

A career emigration appointment – or a 3-year contract with possibility of renewal. Good prospects exist of a senior management appointment in 12–18 months

Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear
and Peter Davalle

BBC 1

- 6.00 *Cosfax AM*
- 6.30 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Seline Scott. News from Debbie Pix at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; programme choice at 6.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18; horoscopes at 8.30; medical advice and culinary tips between 8.30 and 8.45.
- 9.00 *MacLeod's American*: Donny MacLeod at a country and western festival in Nashville, Tennessee (r).
- 9.20 *Trade Union Congress 1984*: Coverage of the morning's debates at Brighton from Vincent Hanna and Lord Scanlon. 10.30 *Play School*, presented by Brian Jameson (r). 10.50 *Trade Union Congress 1984*. Further coverage of the morning's proceedings, 12.45 *Cosfax*.

- 1.00 *News After Noon* with Moya Sturt and Sarah Marshall. The weather programme comes from Ian McCaskill. 1.27 *Regionals*: news (London and SE only); financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles. 1.30 *Postman Pat* (r).
- 1.45 *Nancy Mitford*: Profile of the novelist (r).
- 2.50 *Film: Honeymoon* (1947), starring Shirley Temple. Romantic comedy about a young woman from Minnesota who arrives in Mexico City to look for her corporal fiance. Directed by William Keighley. 4.00 *Regional news* (not London).

- 4.10 *Play School*, presented by Sheelagh Gibney. 4.25 *The Mystery of the Missing*: The Bellamy family and their friends search for the missing wife of Murphy. 5.00 *Holiday Film and Friends*. Episode 22 of the 25-part serial based on the novels by Mark Twain (r).
- 4.45 *Newaround*, 5.00 *Bellamy's Backyard Safari*. David Bellamy continues his slug's eye view safari through a British back garden (r).
- 5.30 *Grange Hill*. Part one of a repeat showing of the 18-episode serial (*Cosfax* titles page 170). 5.58 *Weather*.

- 6.30 *Top of the Pops* introduced by John Peel and Janice Long.
- 7.25 *'Allo 'Allo! Comedy starring Gordon Kaye as Rene, Frenchman helping RAF men escape from occupied France (r). (*Cosfax* titles page 170). (see *Choice*).*
- 8.00 *The Magnificent Evans*, a new comedy series starring Ronnie Barker in the title role – 'genius, photographer and man of letters'. The character is a horning bully who makes life hell for his long-time and long-suffering fiancee, Rachel, played by Sharon Morgan. (*Cosfax* titles page 170).

- 8.30 *The Hot Shoe Show* starring Wayne Sleep. A new series of song, dance and comedy shows begins with, among the guest, Bonnie Langford, Julian Lloyd Webber and from the Royal Ballet Bryony Brind and Ashley Page.
- 9.00 *News with Julie Somerville*.
- 9.25 *Bind of Prey*, by Ron Hutchinson. Richard Griffiths again stars as the reluctant hero, Henry Jay, the mild-mannered chief servant (*Cosfax* titles page 170) (see *Choice*).

- 10.15 *Heart of the Matter*, the first of a new series begins with 'The Merchant of Menace' – a profile of the controversial Rabbi Kehene.

- 10.50 *Turne, Jimmy Perry* remembers Dopples Byng, Al Bowly, George Rokey, Lily Morris and Robb Wilson.

- 11.20 *We Got It Made*, American comedy series.

- 11.45 *News headlines and weather*.

TV-am

- 6.25 *Good Morning Britain* presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News from Debbie Pix at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; programme choice at 6.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18; horoscopes at 8.30; medical advice and culinary tips between 8.30 and 8.45.
- 9.00 *MacLeod's American*: Donny MacLeod at a country and western festival in Nashville, Tennessee (r).
- 9.20 *Trade Union Congress 1984*: Coverage of the morning's debates at Brighton from Vincent Hanna and Lord Scanlon. 10.30 *Play School*, presented by Brian Jameson (r). 10.50 *Trade Union Congress 1984*. Further coverage of the morning's proceedings, 12.45 *Cosfax*.

- 1.00 *News After Noon* with Moya Sturt and Sarah Marshall. The weather programme comes from Ian McCaskill. 1.27 *Regionals*: news (London and SE only); financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles. 1.30 *Postman Pat* (r).

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Celia Bannerman in the film *Bidby* (Channel 4, 9.30pm)

ITV/LONDON

- 8.25 *Thames Newsheadlines* followed by *Seasame Street*.
- 10.25 *Dick Tracy Cartoon*. The *Catnap Caper* (r) 10.30 *Film: Serpent* (1982) starring Laurel and Hardy who are stranded in a thunderstorm when they are accosted by an amicable toper.

- 10.55 *Mysteries, Myths and Legends of the sea*. Stories of killer whales and man-eating sharks. 11.20 *Crash On*: A Time. *Man, An Animated History* series. 11.45 *The Little Rascals* Anniversary Trouble.

- 12.00 *Heggy Heggy*. George Cole reads another talk about the friendly witch. 12.30 *Moonsong* and Co with guest, Kenny Lynch, 12.30 *The Sullivans*.

- 1.00 *News*. 1.20 *Thames news*. 1.30 *Falcon Crest*. Julia is needed by a fellow prisoner and the matron tells her that she has to pay for protection.

- 2.30 *Daytime*. Topical discussion programme presented by Sarah Kennedy. 3.00 *Take The High Road*. The new owner of the Estate is introduced to Jimmy. 3.30 *Thames Newsheadlines* 3.30 *Sons and Daughters*.

- 3.50 *The 1984 US Open Tennis Championships*. Highlights of yesterday's matches in the Women's quarter-finals.

- 6.00 *Film: Big Lie* (1963) starring Tom Courtenay and Julie Christie. Marvelously funny film adapted from the novel and the play by Alan Sillitoe. With Dennis Waterman. Courtenay plays Billy Fisher, a clerk in a North Country firm of undertakers, who tries to escape from his humdrum world by inventing his own fantasy world – Ambrosia, of which he is the ruler. This constant day-dreaming leads him into conflict with his parents, his employer and the two girls to whom he is engaged. Directed by John Schlesinger.

- 7.35 Birth Review. Professor Peter Huntingford, in the last programme of his series, examines post-natal care. Professor Huntingford believes that there is too much advice for the new mother and that the main problem for the mother is to choose what is best for her.

- 8.00 *The Time of Your Life*. Noel Edmonds re-creates Christmas 1963 for his guest, Norman Wisdom. With Bill and Ben the Flowerpot Men, the Baymax Sisters, Lana Morris, Molly Parkin and Pamela Hickey (r).

- 8.30 *Film: Raymond Buxton* reported on the new event to be seen at the show that opens to the public on Friday.

- 9.00 *Jesus in the Desert*. Part four (of five) of the adventure starring Glynnis Davies as Jesus, the former Daily Mirror strip cartoon heroine who usually loses nearly all but her virtue.

- 9.10 *Alma Smith and Joanne*. The second and final compilation of the best from Mel Smith's and Griff Rhys Jones's comedy series.

- 10.00 *News*.

- 10.30 *Hill Street Blues*. Belker, upset by the death of an old but amiable adversary, joins fellow officers undercover at a major drug emporium, while Lucy Bates begins to feel lonely after her promotion.

- 10.45 *Heart of the Master*, the first of a new series begins with 'The Merchant of Menace' – a profile of the controversial Rabbi Kehene.

- 11.20 *Turne, Jimmy Perry* remembers Dopples Byng, Al Bowly, George Rokey, Lily Morris and Robb Wilson.

- 11.45 *We Got It Made*, American comedy series.

- 12.15 *Night Thoughts*.

- **BIDDY** (Channel 4, 9.30pm). Christine Eizard's hypnotic film about a Victorian housewife who survives the passing of decades in the same household deal with a rare kind of drudgery: servility without resentment, and carrying of the heaviest of workloads with the lightest of hearts. These days, Biddy would be dubbed a workaholic. Her obsession with orderliness almost gives her the appearance of a simpleton. She is shown to have no existence beyond ironing, sewing, embroidery, telling nursery tales to her young charges, and quoting from Shelley and Shakespeare. I have called the film hypnotic. Perhaps trance-like might be more accurate. The voiced thoughts are hushed; sometimes they do not seem even to be coming from the same world that the speakers inhabit. The camera slowly slides

CHOICE

- along in slumped feet. There is no artificial light. We never venture into the outside world; indeed, there does not seem to be an outside world. *Biddy* is not only a film of much visual beauty and a microscopically detailed evocation of a vanished domestic lifestyle. It is faintly unnerving, too.
- **BIRD OF PREY** (BBC 1, 9.25pm) has a perfectly comprehensible opening titles sequence: a computer game in which a fox gobbles up every farmyard animal in sight except a fledgling pidgeon. Taking the piglet to be the party civil servant Harry Jay (again played by Richard Griffiths), we can safely assume that Jay is still the principal target of a multinational crime syndicate engaged in

- computer fraud. So far, so clear. Thereafter, I'm afraid I lost contact with the hideous electronic complexities of *Bird of Prey*, 2, though it is evident that Jay is having mother-in-law trouble, and that, despite what they say about him, he is far from being just a meat-and-veg husband.

- **'ALLO, 'ALLO** (BBC 1, 7.25pm), the new comedy series about a wartime French cafe that is used by the Resistance to help smuggle British agents back home, begins tomorrow in a scene-setter, first seen last October. It has a Nazi officer staffing a two-o'clock down his trouser and British agent got up to look like him. And it is funnier than I have made it.

Peter Davalle

TONIGHT'S PROM

- 7.30 *Dvorak's Symphonic Poem: The Noonday Witch*. Martindale's Symphony No 4.
- 8.00 *No Royal Philharmonic Orchestra*: conductor, Walter Weller. Soloist: Krystian Zimerman (piano). Radio 3.

Radio 3

- 6.55 *Weather*. 7.00 *News*.
- 7.05 *Morning Concert*: Rossini's overture II Signor Bruschino; Brahms' Two songs with Violin, Op 91 (Flagstaff/Downes/Mooray); Prokofiev's (arr. Barlow) *Visions Fugitives*; Milhaud's *Le Soleil sur la Mer* (Kremer, violin).
- 8.05 *Morning Concert* (contd): Boyce's Symphony No 7; Debussy's Sonata for flute, viola and harp; Rachmaninov's (arr. Barlow) *Shchedryk* (Parker); Mendelssohn's *Trumpet Concerto* (Winton Marshalls, soloist); 8.00 *News*.

- 8.05 *This Week's Composer*: Vivaldi. Concerto in C, RV 445; Beatus Vir, RV 59; Gloria, RV 59 (Peter Donohoe, piano); Hummel's Trumpet Concerto (Winton Marshalls, soloist); 8.00 *News*.

- 8.10 *100 Years Since*: David Hamilton's *Music Desk*. 8.05 *Kenya*.

- 8.15 *Music of the Month*: David Hamilton's *Music Desk*. 8.20 *Kenya*.

- 8.25 *Music of the Month*: David Hamilton's *Music Desk*.

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London cleanup after fire spreads asbestos

An emergency cleaning up operation is under way after a factory blaze showered an extensive area of north and west London with potentially dangerous asbestos.

One hundred and twenty asbestos removal specialists have been contracted to vacuum up asbestos fall-out from the borough of Brent. Priority is being given to schools, nurseries and play areas.

Also, 60,000 residents have been warned by leaflet not to touch the material.

The blaze, at the Claremont industrial estate in Cricklewood, north-west London, on August 24, the biggest in London for 15 years, involved 200 firemen to bring it under control.

The main damage was to a bonded warehouse belonging to McGregor Cory, which contained an estimated £4m of spirits. Two adjoining warehouses containing tea, coffee, clothing, and electrical items, were also damaged.

At the time no danger from asbestos fall-out was known.

But five days later urgent action was taken after a Brent council asbestos specialist identified charred material on a housing estate.

A small team of council workers moved into the area, three miles from the fire to clean up.

On August 30 warning leaflets in English, Urdu and Gujarati were circulated to 250 households on the council estate in Gladstone Park, Brent.

A 24-hour emergency help line was set up in the borough. Since then 500 calls have been received from residents finding flakes of asbestos in homes and gardens.

The council's health and safety advisor, Mr Ron Dalziel, who is heading the operation, predicted last night that it would take at least another two weeks to clear the area. A total of 170 sacks of asbestos, about 1.5 tons, have been recovered from the contaminated area in Brent.

One problem is that cleared areas are recontaminated by gusts of wind blowing dust from trees and rooftops.

Burning flakes of asbestos were carried 200 feet into the air. The wind, which at first was blowing south-easterly and northerly, then started to swirl at seven knots.

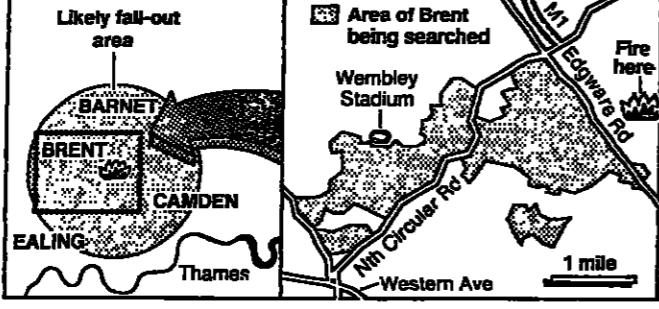
Experts fear a much larger area than the five square miles of Brent has been contaminated.

Charred flakes of asbestos have been found in the neighbouring boroughs of Barnet, where the fire started, Camden, Harrow and Ealing.

Local health and safety



Children watching asbestos removal contractors at Elsley Primary School, Brent, yesterday (Photograph: Murray Job)



Officers are taking advice from the Brent team.

Firemen who dealt with the blaze have identified the asbestos from roof linings in warehouses as the chrysotile, or white type, which has traditionally been thought to be less harmful.

London borough councillors are calling for a set procedure to be enforced to alert authorities if asbestos is damaged by fire.

The Cricklewood fire could also produce one of the largest insurance claims ever made in Britain. Balcombes, the loss assessors acting for the landlord, the Church Commissioners, estimate the cost at £150m.

This compares with £72.5m for the fire at a British Aerospace warehouse in Weybridge, Surrey, in 1980 and £30m for a blaze that year at Baie Comeau.

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